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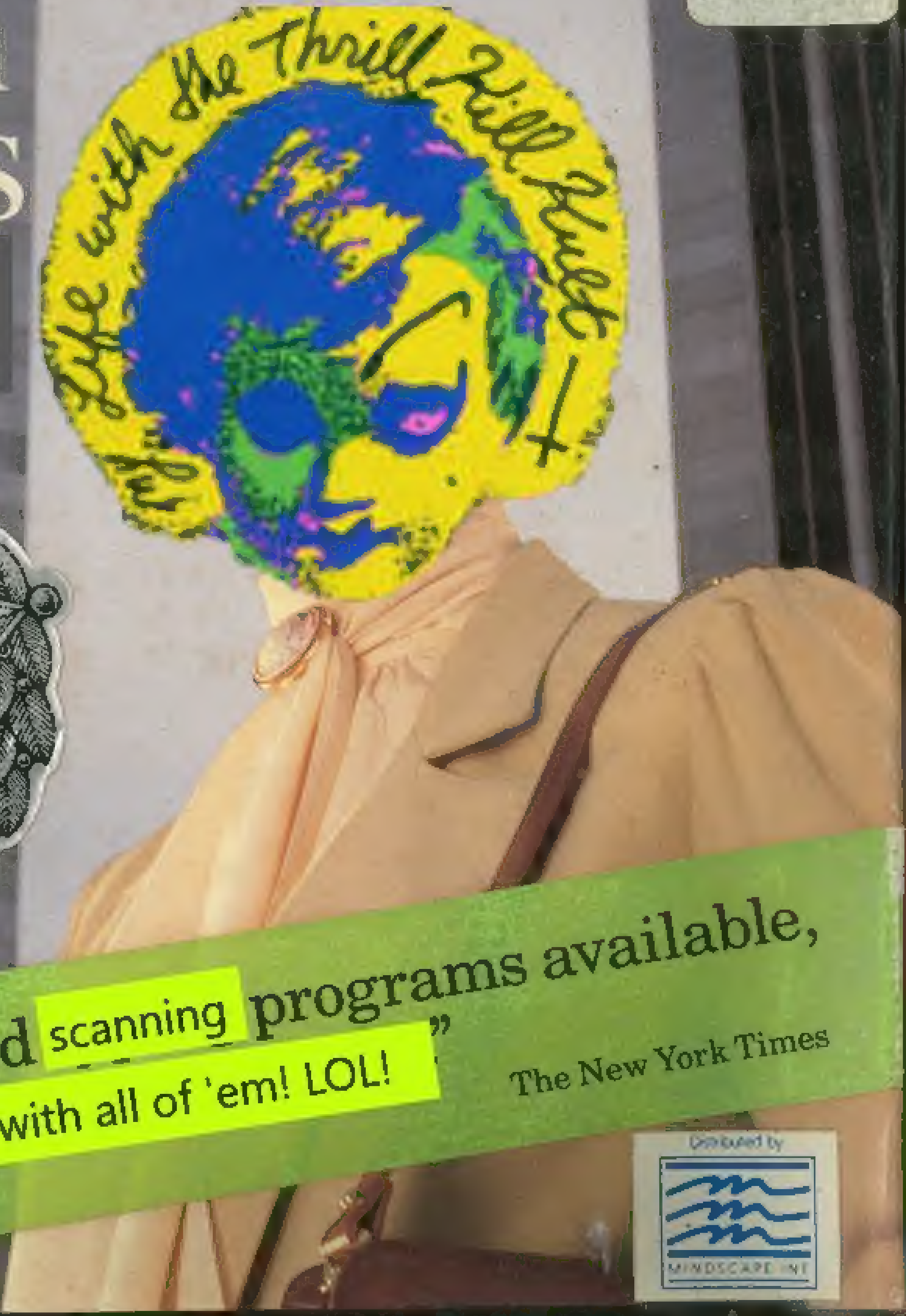
My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult

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Zippy

1

52 BIG PGS.

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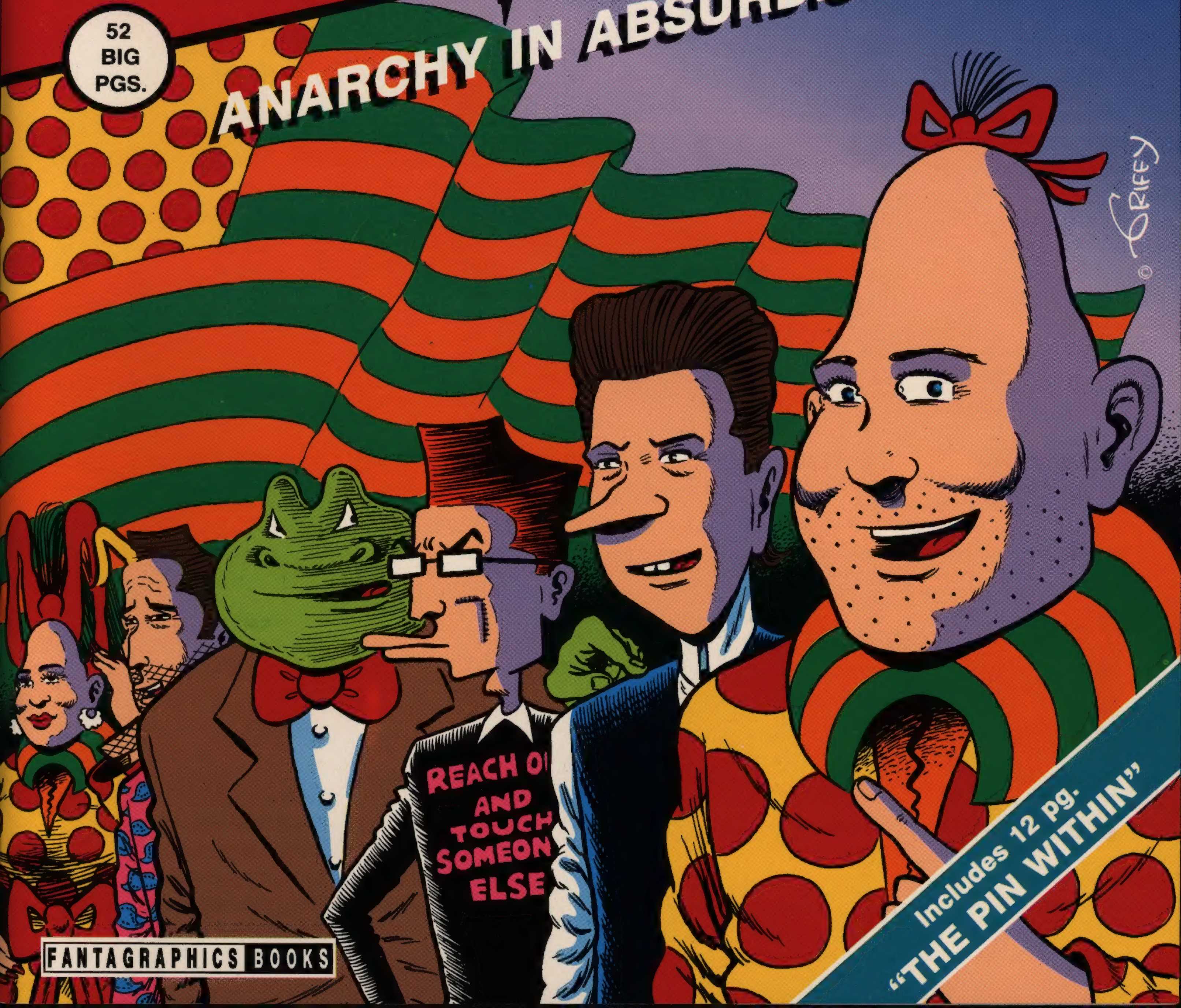
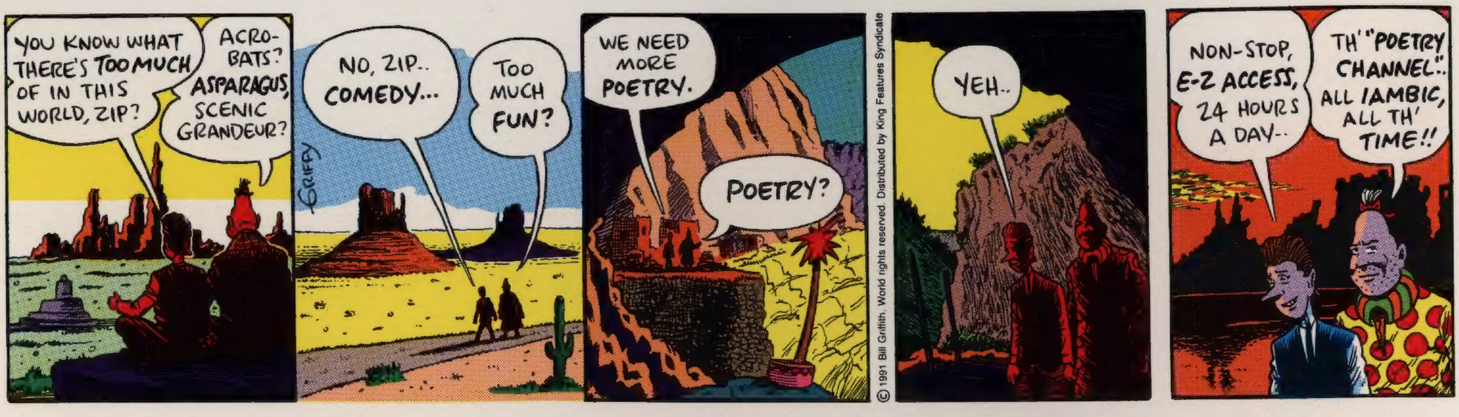

REACH OI
AND
TOUCH
SOMEON
ELSE
© GRIFFY

Includes 12 pg. "THE PIN WITHIN"

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS


YOU KNOW WHAT THERE'S TOO MUCH OF IN THIS WORLD, ZIP?
ACROBATS? ASPARAGUS, SCENIC GRANDEUR?
GRIFFY
NO, ZIP.. COMEDY...
TOO MUCH FUN?
WE NEED MORE POETRY.
POETRY?
YEH..
NON-STOP, E-Z ACCESS, 24 HOURS A DAY..
TH' "POETRY CHANNEL".. ALL IAMBIC, ALL TH' TIME!!

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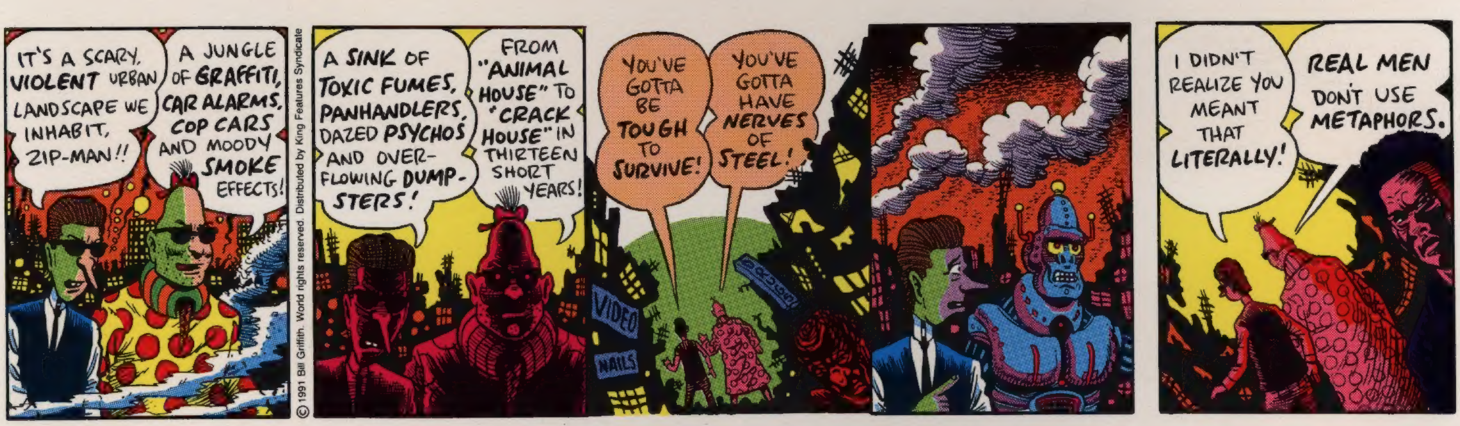
IT'S A SCARY, VIOLENT URBAN LANDSCAPE WE INHABIT, ZIP-MAN!!
A JUNGLE OF GRAFFITI, CAR ALARMS, COP CARS AND MOODY SMOKE EFFECTS!
A SINK OF TOXIC FUMES, PANHANDLERS, DAZED PSYCHOS AND OVER-FLOWING DUMPSTERS!
FROM "ANIMAL HOUSE" TO "CRACK HOUSE" IN THIRTEEN SHORT YEARS!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE TOUGH TO SURVIVE!
YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE NERVES OF STEEL!
VIDEO
NAILS
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU MEANT THAT LITERALLY!
REAL MEN DON'T USE METAPHORS.

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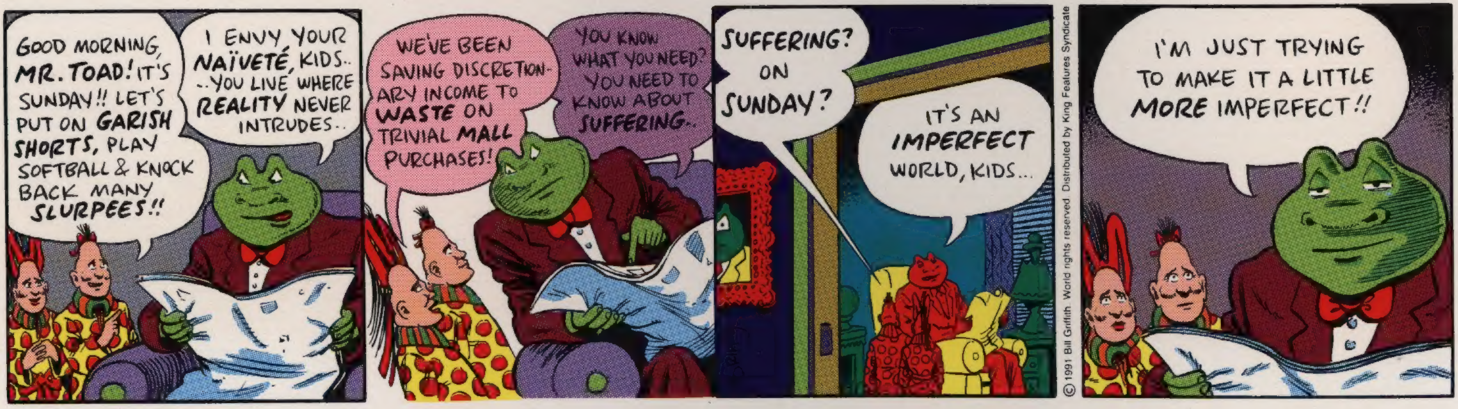
GOOD MORNING, MR. TOAD! IT'S SUNDAY!! LET'S PUT ON GARISH SHORTS, PLAY SOFTBALL & KNOCK BACK MANY SLURPEES!!
I ENVY YOUR NAÏVETÉ, KIDS.. ..YOU LIVE WHERE REALITY NEVER INTRUDES..
WE'VE BEEN SAVING DISCRETIONARY INCOME TO WASTE ON TRIVIAL MALL PURCHASES!
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED? YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SUFFERING..
SUFFERING? ON SUNDAY?
IT'S AN IMPERFECT WORLD, KIDS...
I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE IT A LITTLE MORE IMPERFECT!!

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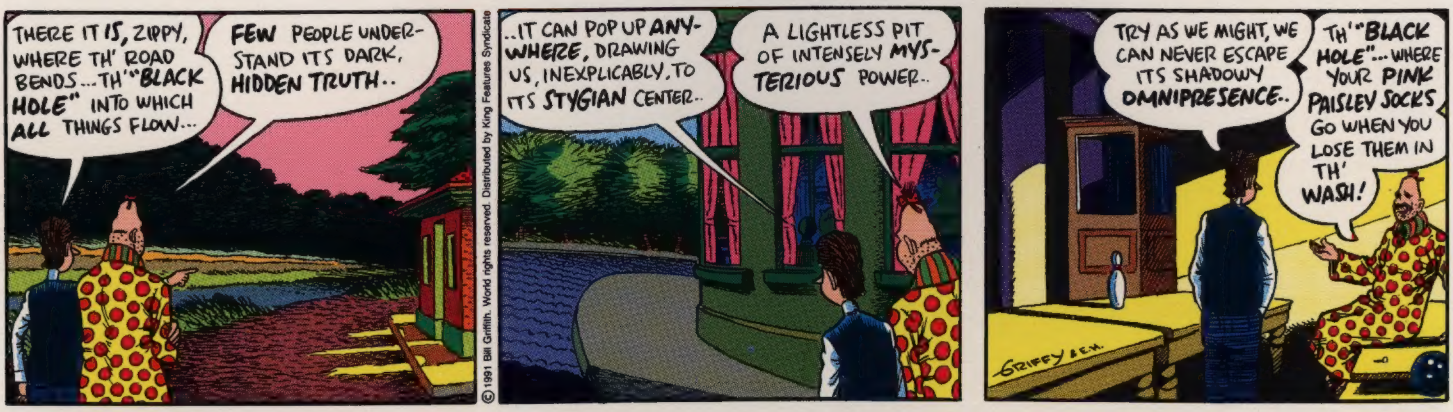
THERE IT IS, ZIPPY, WHERE TH' ROAD BENDS... TH' "BLACK HOLE" INTO WHICH ALL THINGS FLOW...
FEW PEOPLE UNDERSTAND ITS DARK, HIDDEN TRUTH..
..IT CAN POP UP ANYWHERE, DRAWING US, INEXPLICABLY, TO ITS STYGIAN CENTER..
A LIGHTLESS PIT OF INTENSELY MYSTERIOUS POWER..
TRY AS WE MIGHT, WE CAN NEVER ESCAPE ITS SHADOWY OMNIPRESENCE..
TH' "BLACK HOLE"... WHERE YOUR PINK PAISLEY SOCKS GO WHEN YOU LOSE THEM IN TH' WASH!
GRIFFY & E.H.

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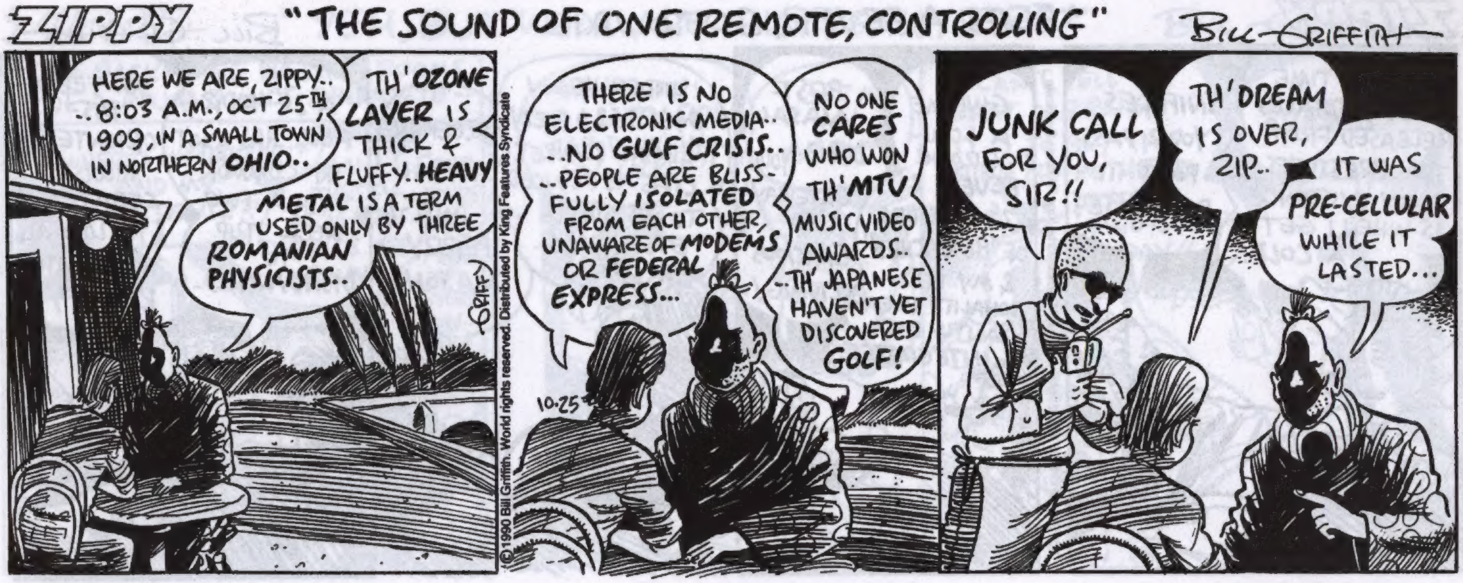
ZIPPY
"THE SOUND OF ONE REMOTE, CONTROLLING"
BILL GRIFFITH
HERE WE ARE, ZIPPY.. ..8:03 A.M., OCT 25TH, 1909, IN A SMALL TOWN IN NORTHERN OHIO..
TH' OZONE LAYER IS THICK & FLUFFY.. HEAVY METAL IS A TERM USED ONLY BY THREE ROMANIAN PHYSICISTS..
GRIFFY
THERE IS NO ELECTRONIC MEDIA.. ..NO GULF CRISIS.. ..PEOPLE ARE BLISSFULLY ISOLATED FROM EACH OTHER, UNAWARE OF MODEMS OR FEDERAL EXPRESS...
NO ONE CARES WHO WON TH' MTV MUSIC VIDEO AWARDS.. ..TH' JAPANESE HAVEN'T YET DISCOVERED GOLF!
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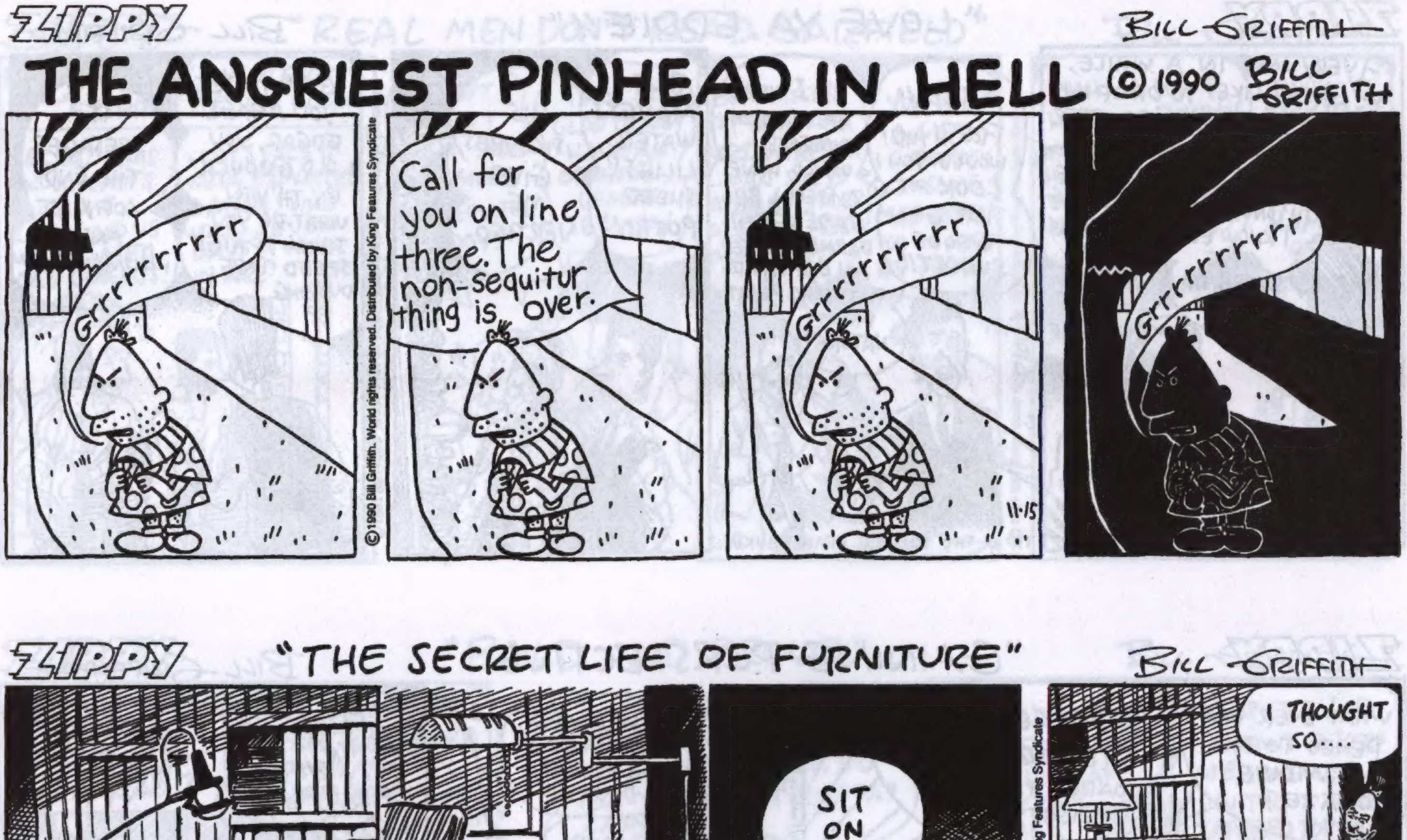
10-25
JUNK CALL FOR YOU, SIR!!
TH' DREAM IS OVER, ZIP..
IT WAS PRE-CELLULAR WHILE IT LASTED...


ZIPPY
BILL GRIFFITH
THE ANGRIEST PINHEAD IN HELL © 1990 BILL GRIFFITH
Grrrrrrrrrr
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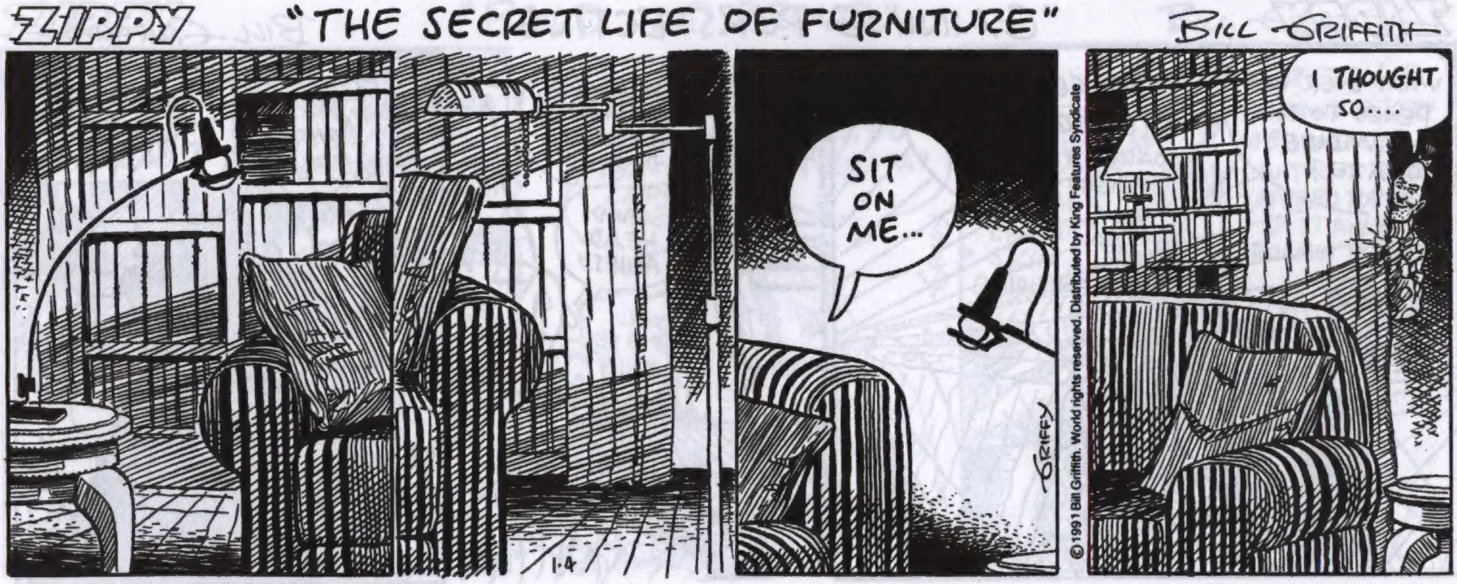
Call for you on line three. The non-sequitur thing is over.
Grrrrrrrrrr
11-15
Grrrrrrrrrr


ZIPPY
"THE SECRET LIFE OF FURNITURE"
BILL GRIFFITH
1-4
SIT ON ME...
GRIFFY
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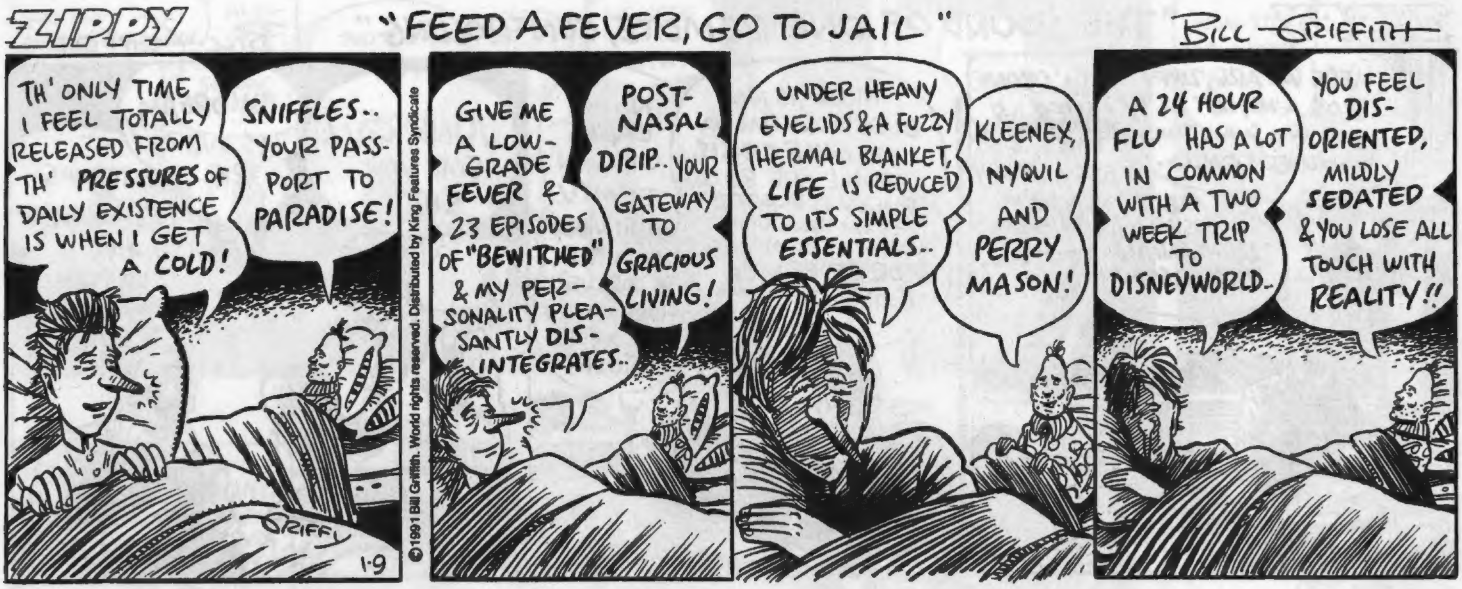
I THOUGHT SO....


ZIPPY
"FEED A FEVER, GO TO JAIL"
BILL GRIFFITH
TH' ONLY TIME I FEEL TOTALLY RELEASED FROM TH' PRESSURES OF DAILY EXISTENCE IS WHEN I GET A COLD!
SNIFFLES.. YOUR PASSPORT TO PARADISE!
GRIFFY
1-9
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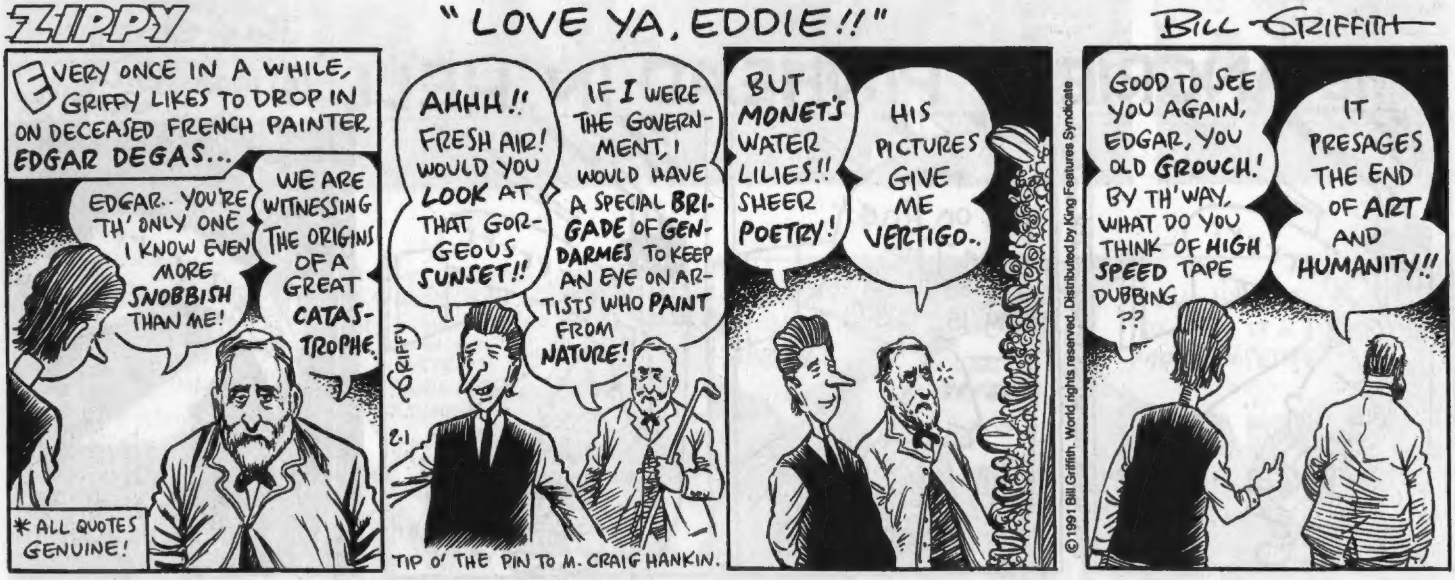
GIVE ME A LOW-GRADE FEVER & 23 EPISODES OF "BEWITCHED" & MY PERSONALITY PLEASANTLY DISINTEGRATES..
POST-NASAL DRIP.. YOUR GATEWAY TO GRACIOUS LIVING!
UNDER HEAVY EYELIDS & A FUZZY THERMAL BLANKET, LIFE IS REDUCED TO ITS SIMPLE ESSENTIALS..
KLEENEX, NYQUIL AND PERRY MASON!
A 24 HOUR FLU HAS A LOT IN COMMON WITH A TWO WEEK TRIP TO DISNEYWORLD..
YOU FEEL DIS-ORIENTED, MILDLY SEDATED & YOU LOSE ALL TOUCH WITH REALITY!!


ZIPPY
"LOVE YA, EDDIE!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, GRIFFY LIKES TO DROP IN ON DECEASED FRENCH PAINTER EDGAR DEGAS...
EDGAR.. YOU'RE TH' ONLY ONE I KNOW EVEN MORE SNOBBISH THAN ME!
WE ARE WITNESSING THE ORIGINS OF A GREAT CATASTROPHE.
* ALL QUOTES GENUINE!
AHHH!! FRESH AIR! WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT GORGEOUS SUNSET!!
IF I WERE THE GOVERNMENT, I WOULD HAVE A SPECIAL BRIGADE OF GENDARMES TO KEEP AN EYE ON ARTISTS WHO PAINT FROM NATURE!
GRIFFY
2-1
TIP O' THE PIN TO M. CRAIG HANKIN.
BUT MONET'S WATER LILIES!! SHEER POETRY!
HIS PICTURES GIVE ME VERTIGO..
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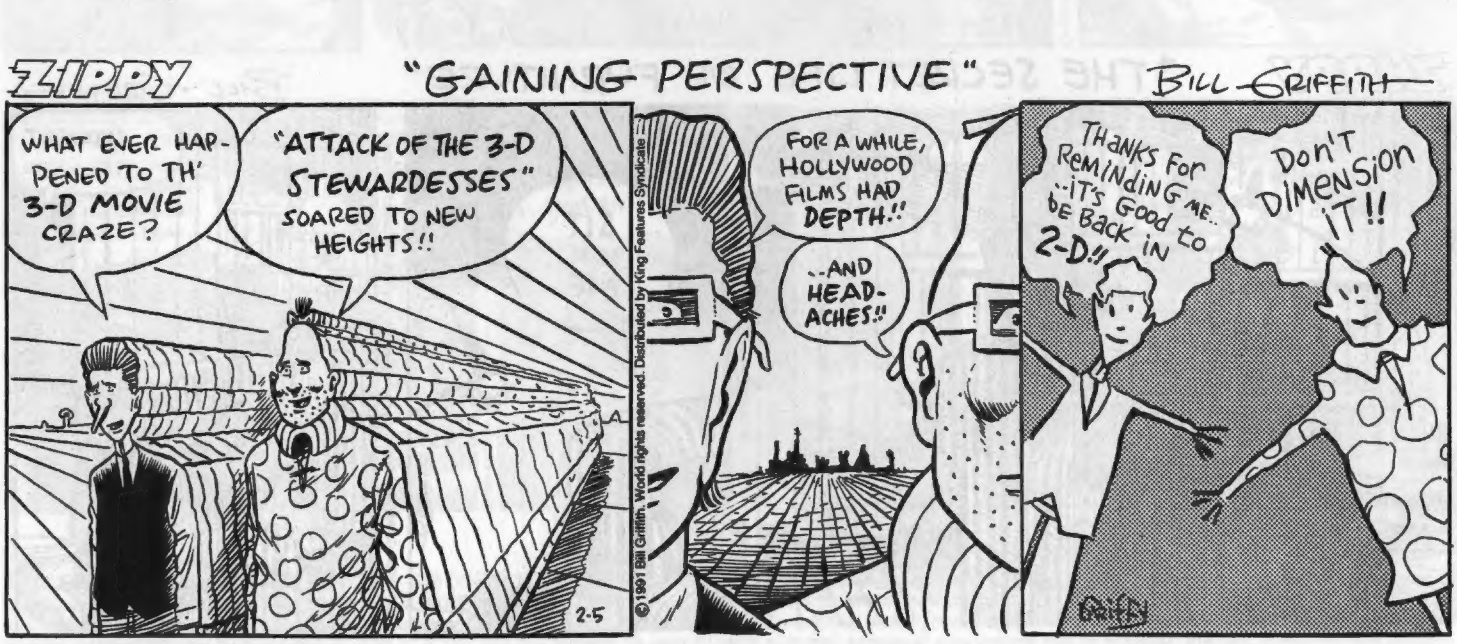
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, EDGAR, YOU OLD GROUCH! BY TH' WAY, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIGH SPEED TAPE DUBBING ??
IT PRESAGES THE END OF ART AND HUMANITY!!


ZIPPY
"GAINING PERSPECTIVE"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO TH' 3-D MOVIE CRAZE?
"ATTACK OF THE 3-D STEWARDESSES" SOARED TO NEW HEIGHTS!!
2-5
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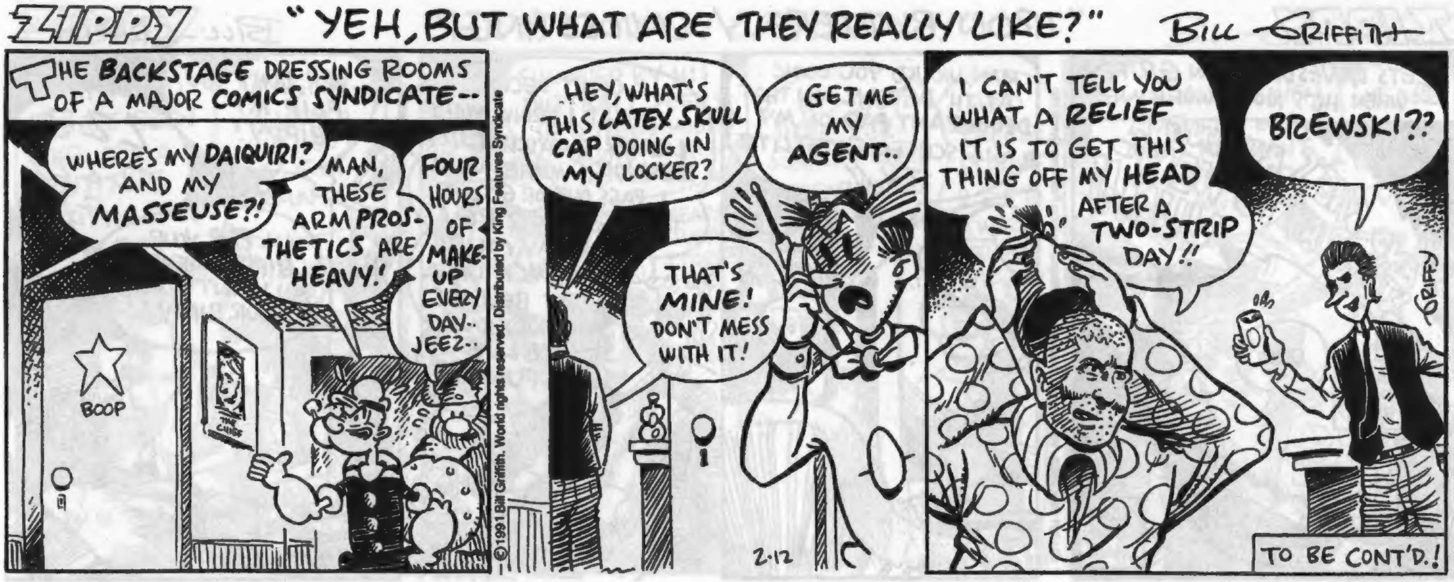
FOR A WHILE, HOLLYWOOD FILMS HAD DEPTH!!
..AND HEADACHES!!
THANKS FOR REMINDING ME.. ..IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK IN 2-D!!
DON'T DIMENSION IT!!
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"YEH, BUT WHAT ARE THEY REALLY LIKE?"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE BACKSTAGE DRESSING ROOMS OF A MAJOR COMICS SYNDICATE--
WHERE'S MY DAIQUIRI? AND MY MASSEUSE?!
MAN, THESE ARM PROSTHETICS ARE HEAVY!
FOUR HOURS OF MAKE-UP EVERY DAY.. JEEZ..
BOOP
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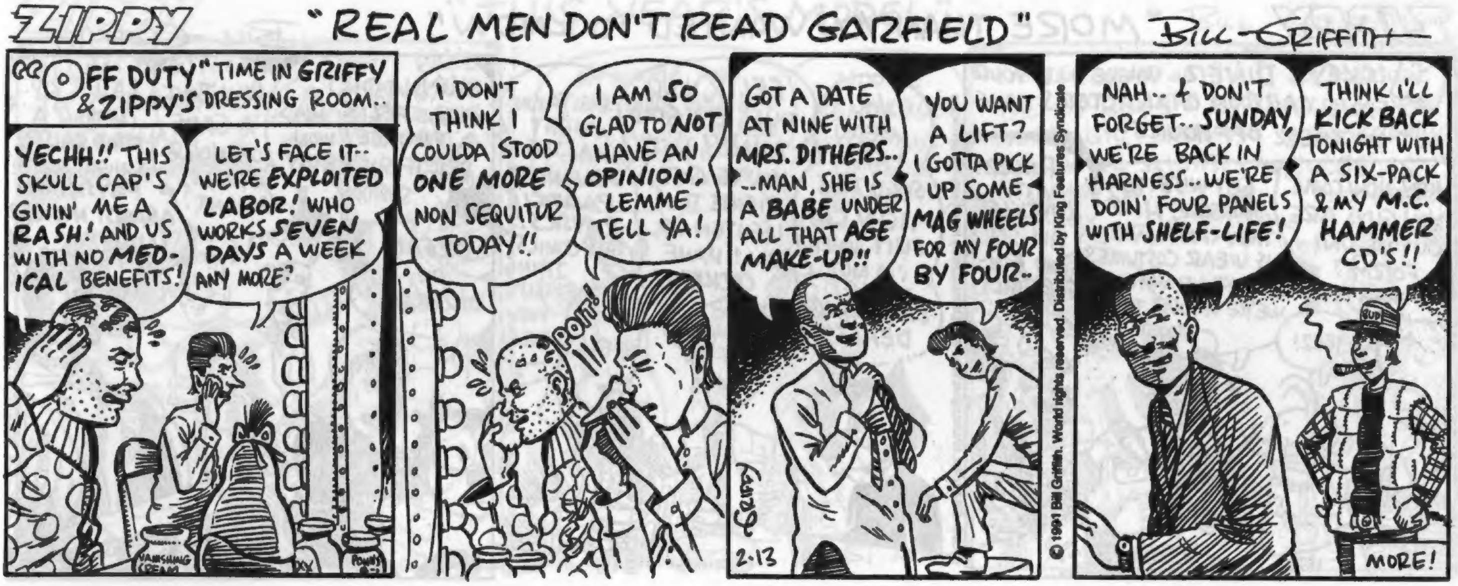
HEY, WHAT'S THIS LATEX SKULL CAP DOING IN MY LOCKER?
GET ME MY AGENT..
THAT'S MINE! DON'T MESS WITH IT!
2.12
I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT A RELIEF IT IS TO GET THIS THING OFF MY HEAD AFTER A TWO-STRIP DAY!!
BREWSKI??
GRIFFY
TO BE CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"REAL MEN DON'T READ GARFIELD"
BILL GRIFFITH
"OFF DUTY" TIME IN GRIFFY & ZIPPY'S DRESSING ROOM..
YECHH!! THIS SKULL CAP'S GIVIN' ME A RASH! AND US WITH NO MEDICAL BENEFITS!
LET'S FACE IT-- WE'RE EXPLOITED LABOR! WHO WORKS SEVEN DAYS A WEEK ANY MORE?
VANISHING CREAM
I DON'T THINK I COULDA STOOD ONE MORE NON SEQUITUR TODAY!!
I AM SO GLAD TO NOT HAVE AN OPINION, LEMME TELL YA!
POIT!
GRIFFY
2.13
GOT A DATE AT NINE WITH MRS. DITHERS.. ..MAN, SHE IS A BABE UNDER ALL THAT AGE MAKE-UP!!
YOU WANT A LIFT? I GOTTA PICK UP SOME MAG WHEELS FOR MY FOUR BY FOUR..
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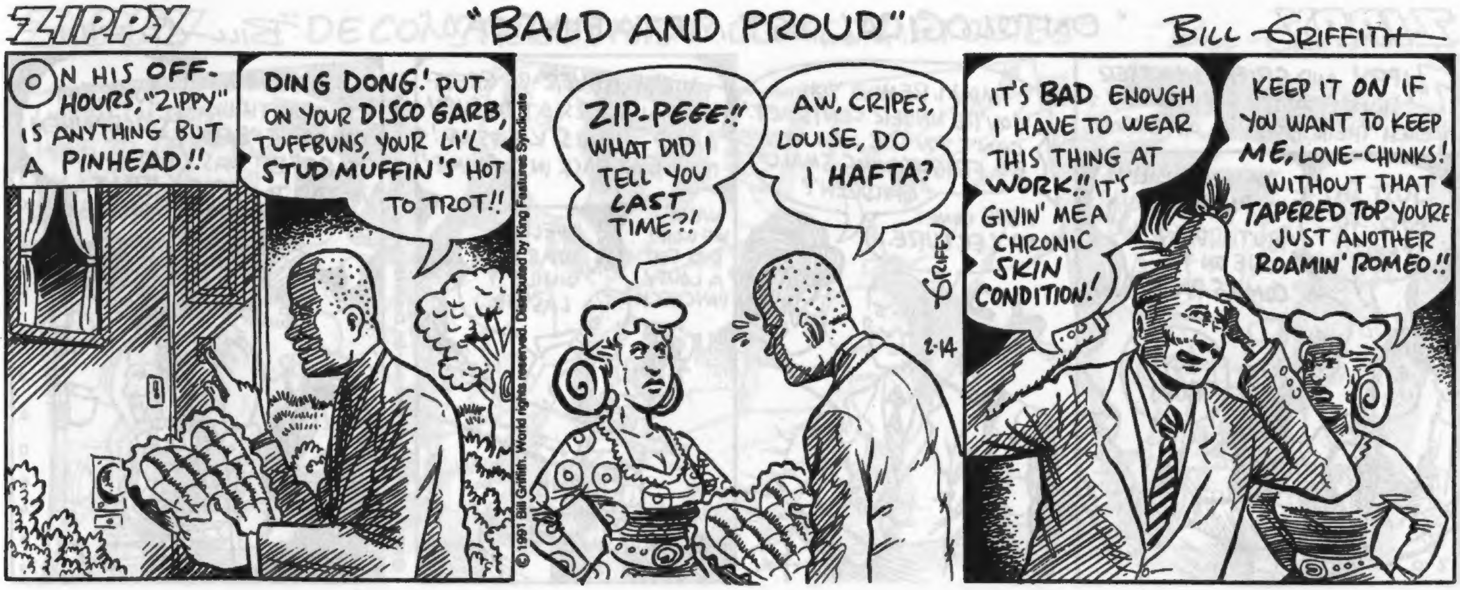
NAH.. & DON'T FORGET.. SUNDAY, WE'RE BACK IN HARNESS.. WE'RE DOIN' FOUR PANELS WITH SHELF-LIFE!
THINK I'LL KICK BACK TONIGHT WITH A SIX-PACK & MY M.C. HAMMER CD'S!!
BUD
MORE!


ZIPPY
"BALD AND PROUD"
BILL GRIFFITH
ON HIS OFF-HOURS, "ZIPPY" IS ANYTHING BUT A PINHEAD!!
DING DONG! PUT ON YOUR DISCO GARB, TUFFBUNS, YOUR LI'L STUD MUFFIN'S HOT TO TROT!!
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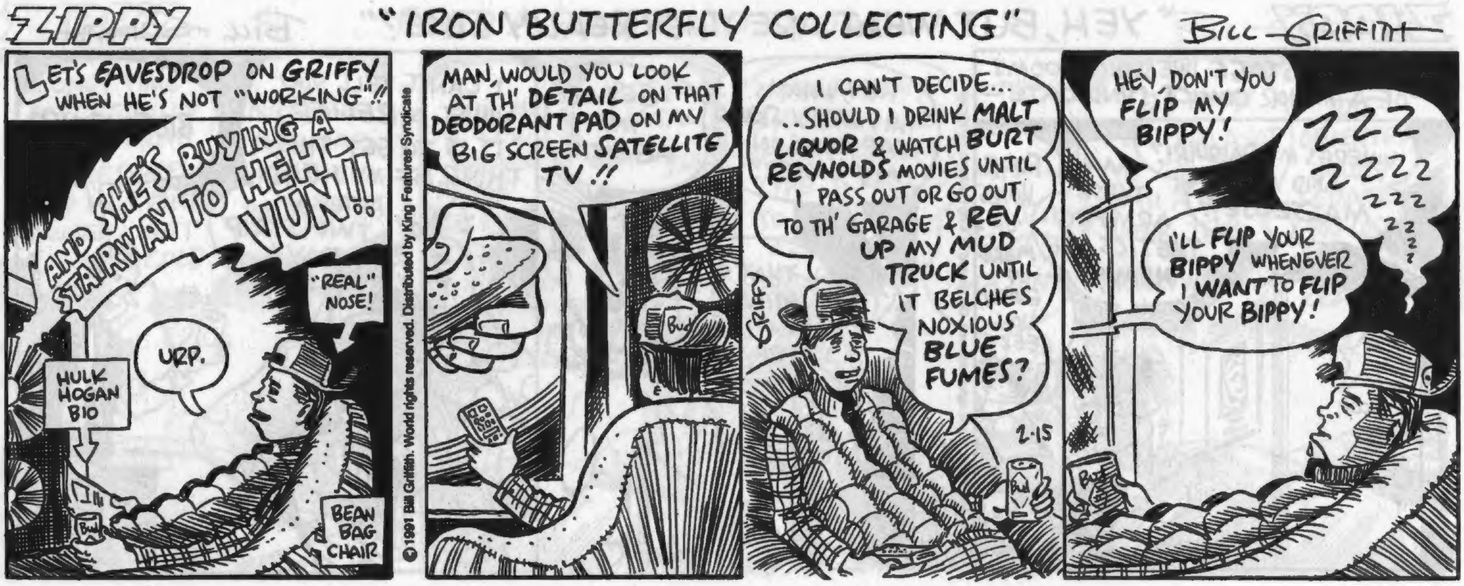
ZIP-PEEE!! WHAT DID I TELL YOU LAST TIME?!
AW, CRIPES, LOUISE, DO I HAFTA?
GRIFFY
2.14
IT'S BAD ENOUGH I HAVE TO WEAR THIS THING AT WORK!! IT'S GIVIN' ME A CHRONIC SKIN CONDITION!
KEEP IT ON IF YOU WANT TO KEEP ME, LOVE-CHUNKS! WITHOUT THAT TAPERED TOP YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER ROAMIN' ROMEO!!


ZIPPY
"IRON BUTTERFLY COLLECTING"
BILL GRIFFITH
LET'S EAVESDROP ON GRIFFY WHEN HE'S NOT "WORKING"!!
AND SHE'S BUYING A STAIRWAY TO HEH-VUN!!
"REAL" NOSE!
URP.
HULK HOGAN BIO
BEAN BAG CHAIR
Bud
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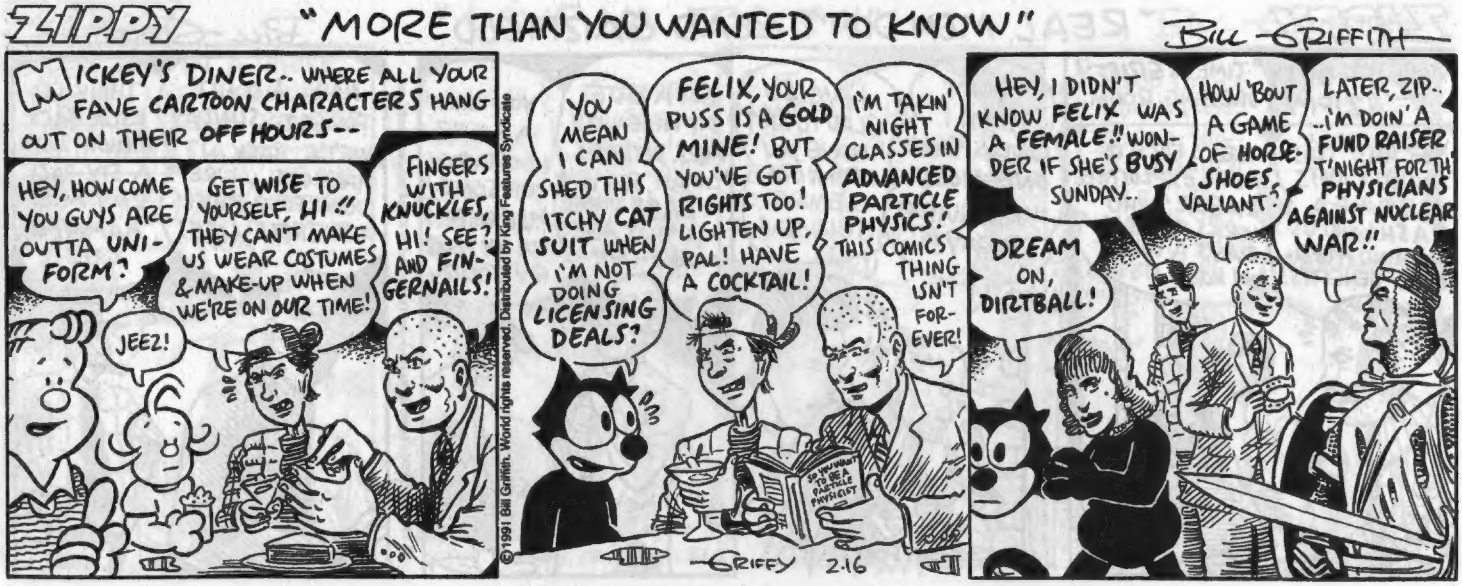
MAN, WOULD YOU LOOK AT TH' DETAIL ON THAT DEODORANT PAD ON MY BIG SCREEN SATELLITE TV!!
I CAN'T DECIDE... ..SHOULD I DRINK MALT LIQUOR & WATCH BURT REYNOLDS MOVIES UNTIL I PASS OUT OR GO OUT TO TH' GARAGE & REV UP MY MUD TRUCK UNTIL IT BELCHES NOXIOUS BLUE FUMES?
GRIFFY
2-15
HEY, DON'T YOU FLIP MY BIPPY!
ZZZ ZZZZ ZZZ ZZZ
I'LL FLIP YOUR BIPPY WHENEVER I WANT TO FLIP YOUR BIPPY!


ZIPPY
"MORE THAN YOU WANTED TO KNOW"
BILL GRIFFITH
MICKEY'S DINER.. WHERE ALL YOUR FAVE CARTOON CHARACTERS HANG OUT ON THEIR OFF HOURS--
HEY, HOW COME YOU GUYS ARE OUTTA UNIFORM?
GET WISE TO YOURSELF, HI!! THEY CAN'T MAKE US WEAR COSTUMES & MAKE-UP WHEN WE'RE ON OUR TIME!
FINGERS WITH KNUCKLES, HI! SEE? AND FINGERNAILS!
JEEZ!
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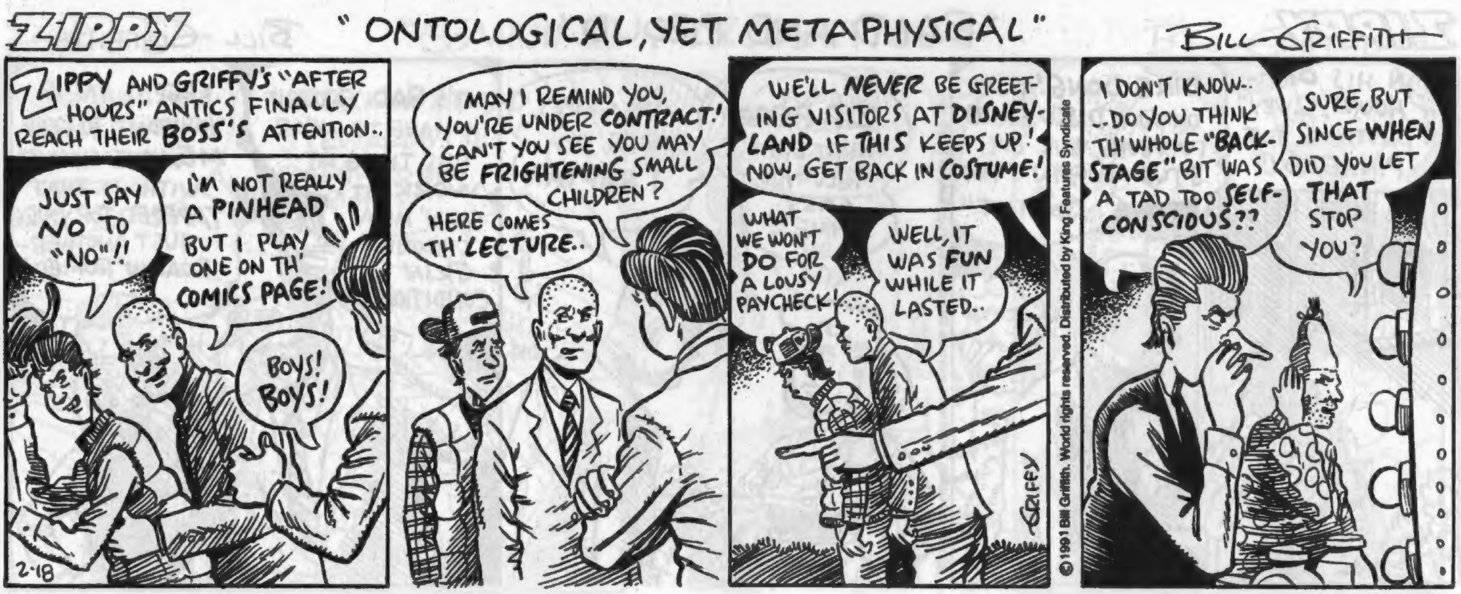
YOU MEAN I CAN SHED THIS ITCHY CAT SUIT WHEN I'M NOT DOING LICENSING DEALS?
FELIX, YOUR PUSS IS A GOLD MINE! BUT YOU'VE GOT RIGHTS TOO! LIGHTEN UP, PAL! HAVE A COCKTAIL!
I'M TAKIN' NIGHT CLASSES IN ADVANCED PARTICLE PHYSICS! THIS COMICS THING ISN'T FOREVER!
SO YOU WANT TO BE A PARTICLE PHYSICIST
GRIFFY 2-16
HEY, I DIDN'T KNOW FELIX WAS A FEMALE!! WONDER IF SHE'S BUSY SUNDAY..
HOW 'BOUT A GAME OF HORSESHOES, VALIANT?
LATER, ZIP.. ..I'M DOIN' A FUND RAISER T'NIGHT FOR TH' PHYSICIANS AGAINST NUCLEAR WAR!!
DREAM ON, DIRTBALL!


ZIPPY
"ONTOLOGICAL, YET METAPHYSICAL"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY AND GRIFFY'S "AFTER HOURS" ANTICS FINALLY REACH THEIR BOSS'S ATTENTION..
JUST SAY NO TO "NO"!!
I'M NOT REALLY A PINHEAD BUT I PLAY ONE ON TH' COMICS PAGE!
BOYS! BOYS!
2-18
MAY I REMIND YOU, YOU'RE UNDER CONTRACT! CAN'T YOU SEE YOU MAY BE FRIGHTENING SMALL CHILDREN?
HERE COMES TH' LECTURE..
WE'LL NEVER BE GREETING VISITORS AT DISNEYLAND IF THIS KEEPS UP! NOW, GET BACK IN COSTUME!
WHAT WE WON'T DO FOR A LOUSY PAYCHECK!
WELL, IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED..
GRIFFY
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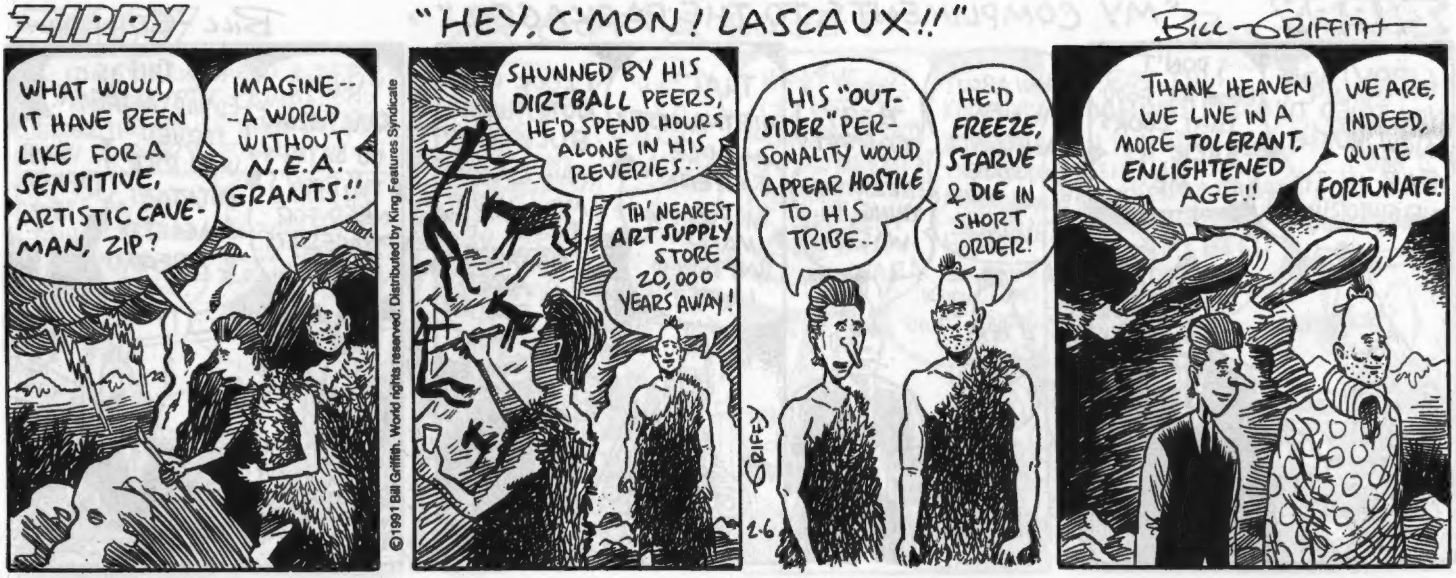
I DON'T KNOW.. ..DO YOU THINK TH' WHOLE "BACKSTAGE" BIT WAS A TAD TOO SELF-CONSCIOUS??
SURE, BUT SINCE WHEN DID YOU LET THAT STOP YOU?


ZIPPY
"HEY, C'MON! LASCAUX!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT WOULD IT HAVE BEEN LIKE FOR A SENSITIVE, ARTISTIC CAVE-MAN, ZIP?
IMAGINE-- -A WORLD WITHOUT N.E.A. GRANTS!!
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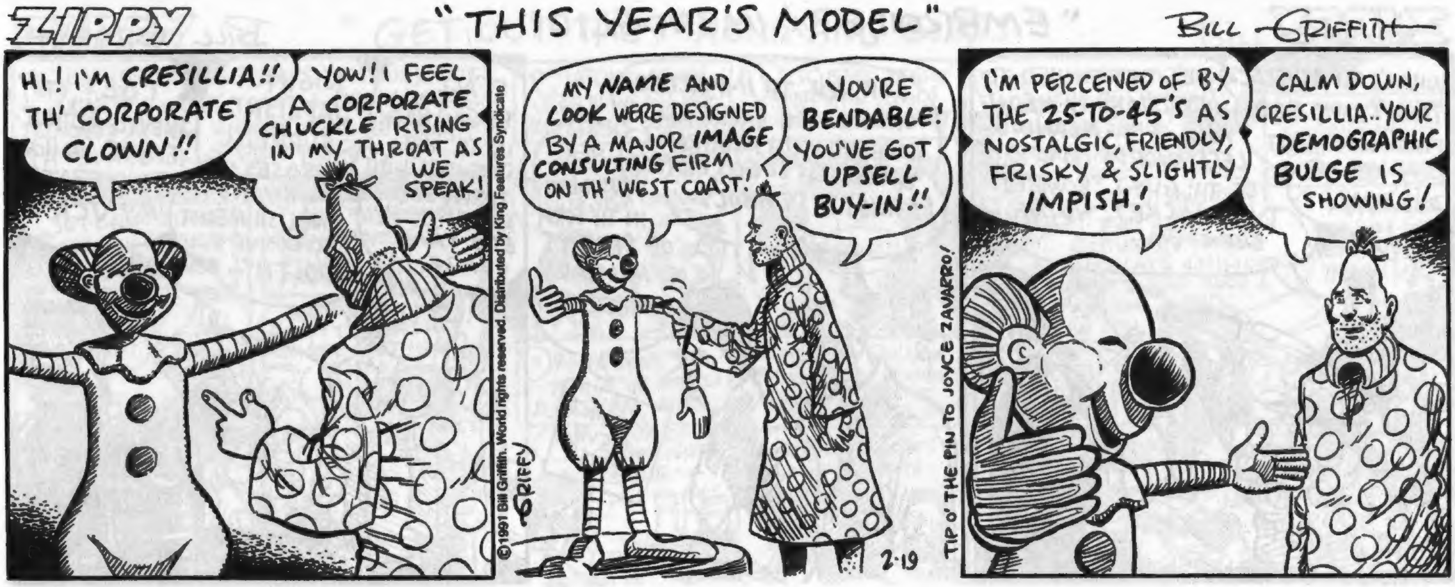
SHUNNED BY HIS DIRTBALL PEERS, HE'D SPEND HOURS ALONE IN HIS REVERIES..
TH' NEAREST ART SUPPLY STORE 20,000 YEARS AWAY!
GRIFFY
2-6
HIS "OUT-SIDER" PER-SONALITY WOULD APPEAR HOSTILE TO HIS TRIBE..
HE'D FREEZE, STARVE & DIE IN SHORT ORDER!
THANK HEAVEN WE LIVE IN A MORE TOLERANT, ENLIGHTENED AGE!!
WE ARE, INDEED, QUITE FORTUNATE!


ZIPPY
"THIS YEAR'S MODEL"
BILL GRIFFITH
HI! I'M CRESILLIA!! TH' CORPORATE CLOWN!!
YOW! I FEEL A CORPORATE CHUCKLE RISING IN MY THROAT AS WE SPEAK!
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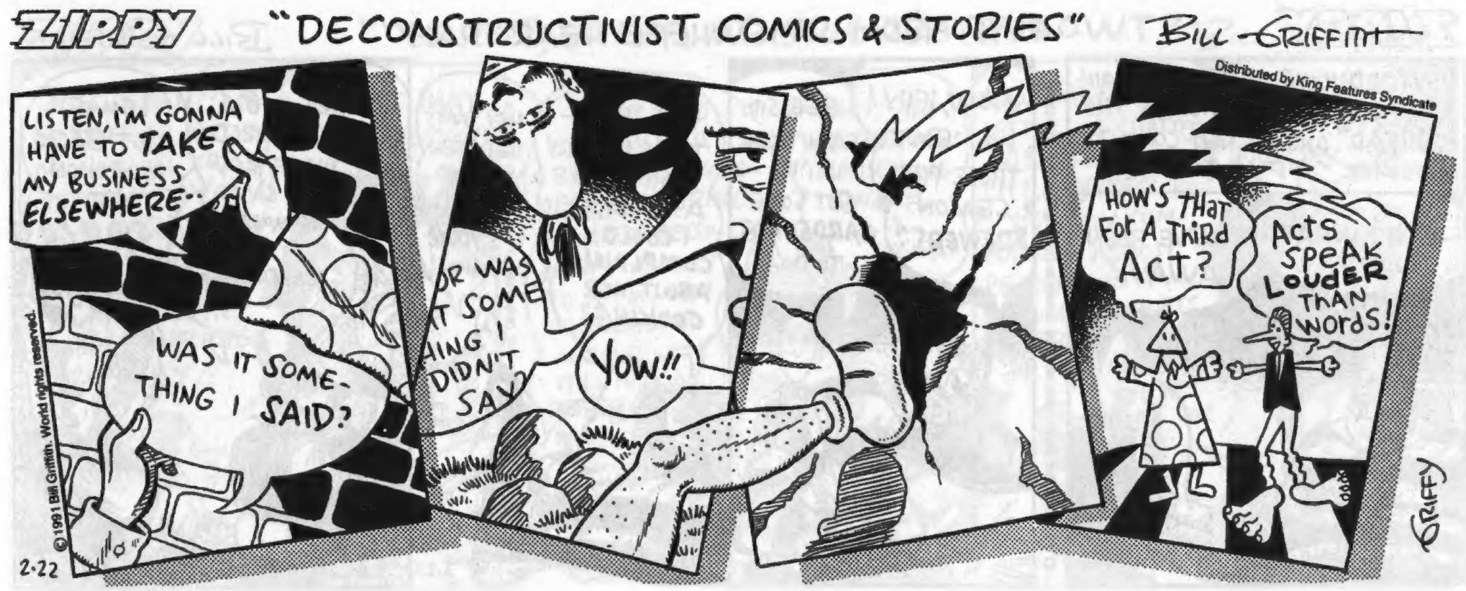
GRIFFY
MY NAME AND LOOK WERE DESIGNED BY A MAJOR IMAGE CONSULTING FIRM ON TH' WEST COAST!
YOU'RE BENDABLE! YOU'VE GOT UPSELL BUY-IN!!
2-19
TIP O' THE PIN TO JOYCE ZAVARRO!
I'M PERCEIVED OF BY THE 25-TO-45'S AS NOSTALGIC, FRIENDLY, FRISKY & SLIGHTLY IMPISH!
CALM DOWN, CRESILLIA.. YOUR DEMOGRAPHIC BULGE IS SHOWING!


ZIPPY
"DECONSTRUCTIVIST COMICS & STORIES"
BILL GRIFFITH
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LISTEN, I'M GONNA HAVE TO TAKE MY BUSINESS ELSEWHERE..
WAS IT SOME-THING I SAID?
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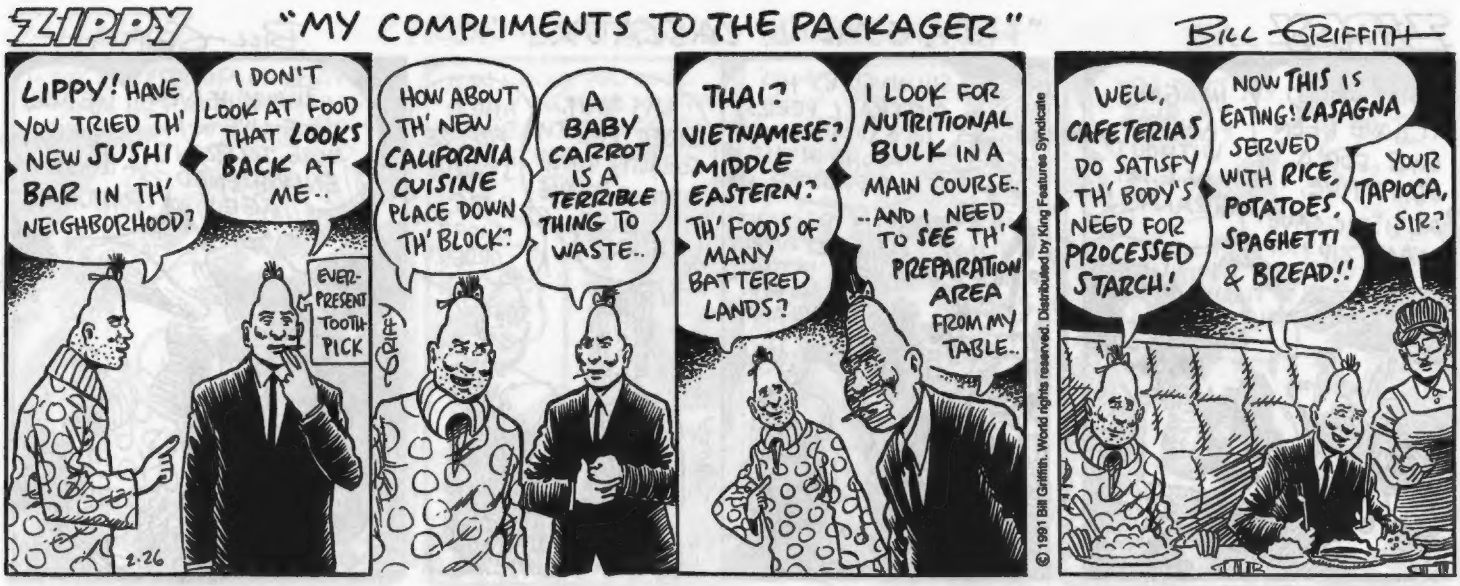
2-22
OR WAS T SOME ING I DIDN'T SAY
YOW!!
HOW'S THAT FOR A THIRD ACT?
ACTS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS!
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"MY COMPLIMENTS TO THE PACKAGER"
BILL GRIFFITH
LIPPY! HAVE YOU TRIED TH' NEW SUSHI BAR IN TH' NEIGHBORHOOD?
I DON'T LOOK AT FOOD THAT LOOKS BACK AT ME..
EVER-PRESENT TOOTH-PICK
2.26
HOW ABOUT TH' NEW CALIFORNIA CUISINE PLACE DOWN TH' BLOCK?
A BABY CARROT IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE..
GRIFFY
THAI? VIETNAMESE? MIDDLE EASTERN? TH' FOODS OF MANY BATTERED LANDS?
I LOOK FOR NUTRITIONAL BULK IN A MAIN COURSE.. ..AND I NEED TO SEE TH' PREPARATION AREA FROM MY TABLE..
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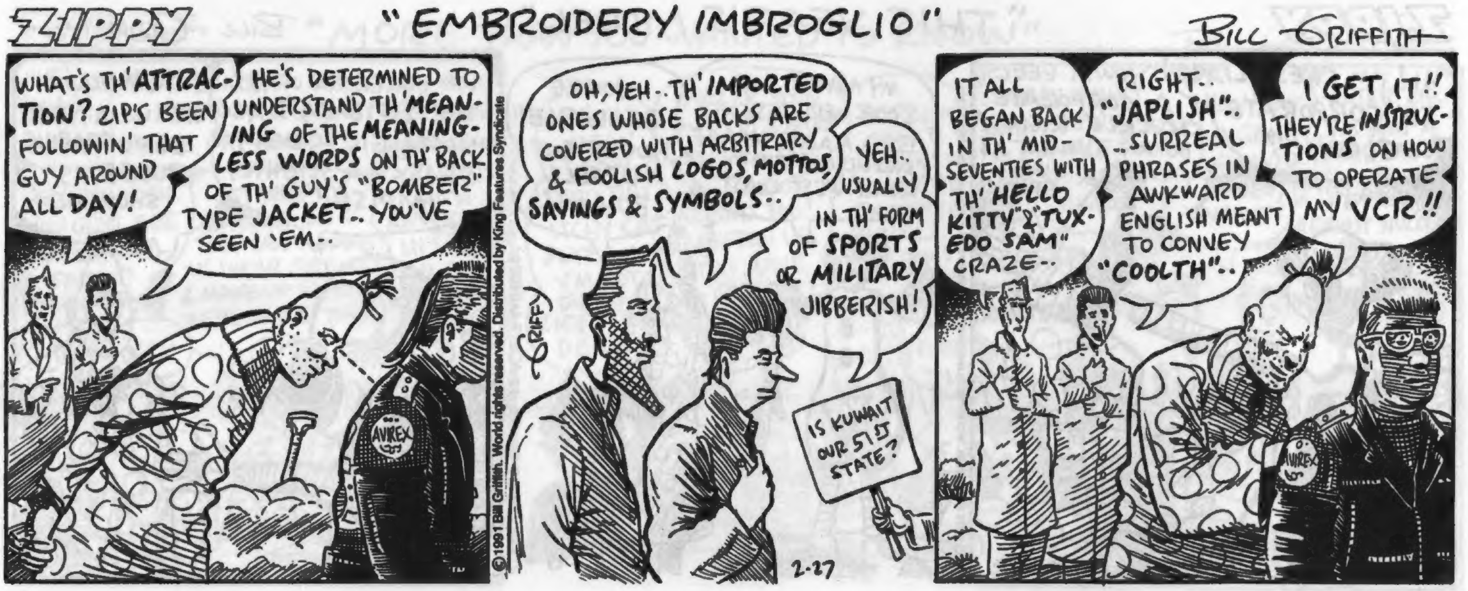
WELL, CAFETERIAS DO SATISFY TH' BODY'S NEED FOR PROCESSED STARCH!
NOW THIS IS EATING! LASAGNA SERVED WITH RICE, POTATOES, SPAGHETTI & BREAD!!
YOUR TAPIOCA, SIR?


ZIPPY
"EMBROIDERY IMBROGLIO"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT'S TH' ATTRACTION? ZIP'S BEEN FOLLOWIN' THAT GUY AROUND ALL DAY!
HE'S DETERMINED TO UNDERSTAND TH' MEANING OF THE MEANINGLESS WORDS ON TH' BACK OF TH' GUY'S "BOMBER" TYPE JACKET.. YOU'VE SEEN 'EM..
AVIREX
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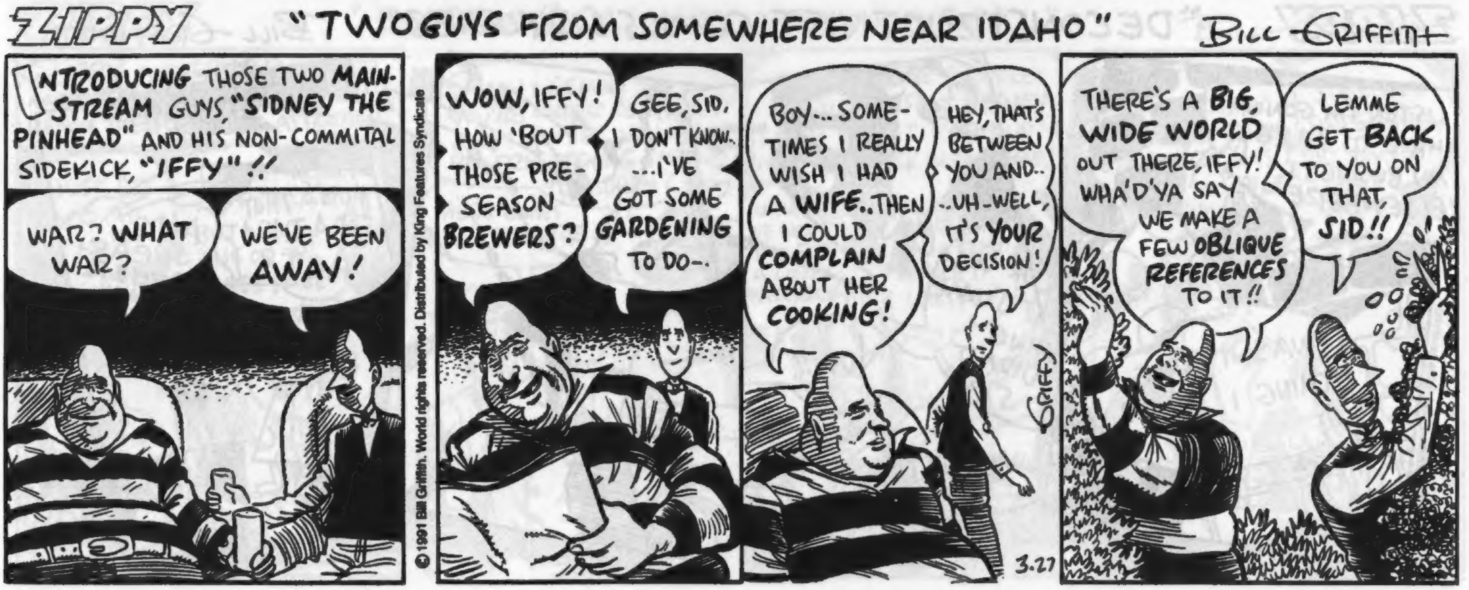
OH, YEH..TH' IMPORTED ONES WHOSE BACKS ARE COVERED WITH ARBITRARY & FOOLISH LOGOS, MOTTOS, SAYINGS & SYMBOLS..
YEH.. USUALLY IN TH' FORM OF SPORTS OR MILITARY JIBBERISH!
GRIFFY
IS KUWAIT OUR 51ST STATE?
2.27
IT ALL BEGAN BACK IN TH' MID-SEVENTIES WITH TH' "HELLO KITTY" & "TUXEDO SAM" CRAZE..
RIGHT.. "JAPLISH".. ..SURREAL PHRASES IN AWKWARD ENGLISH MEANT TO CONVEY "COOLTH"..
I GET IT!! THEY'RE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO OPERATE MY VCR!!
AVIREX


ZIPPY
"TWO GUYS FROM SOMEWHERE NEAR IDAHO"
BILL GRIFFITH
INTRODUCING THOSE TWO MAINSTREAM GUYS, "SIDNEY THE PINHEAD" AND HIS NON-COMMITAL SIDEKICK, "IFFY"!!
WAR? WHAT WAR?
WE'VE BEEN AWAY!
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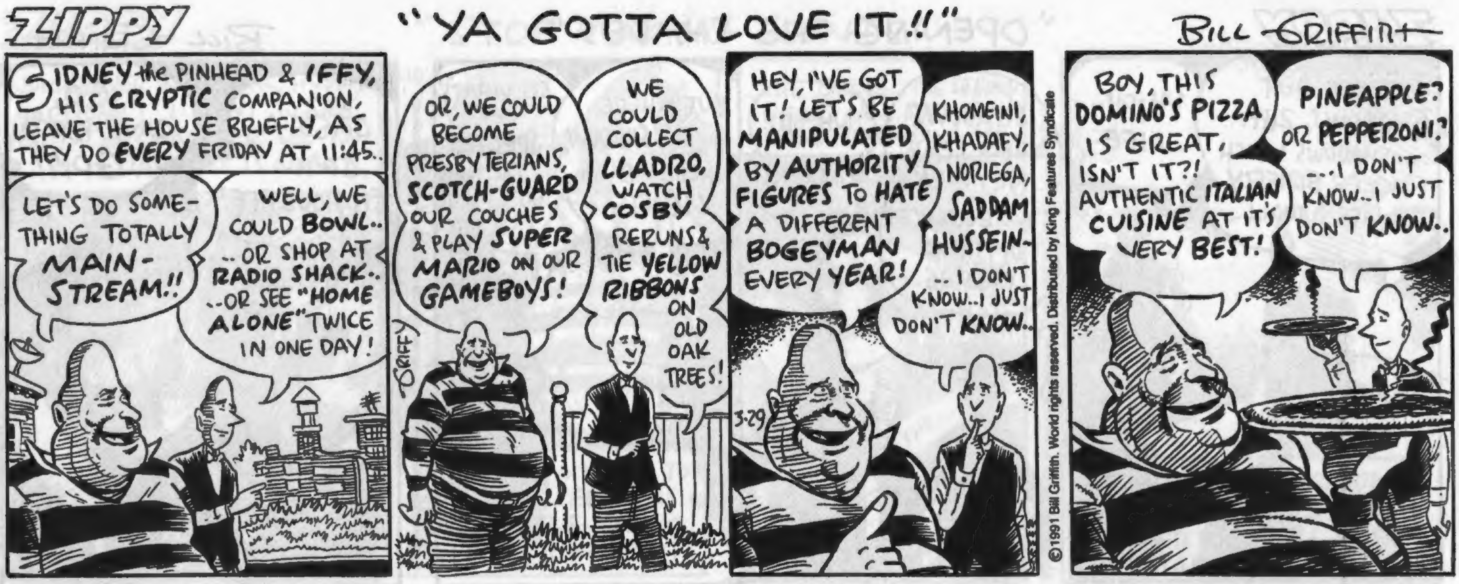
WOW, IFFY! HOW 'BOUT THOSE PRE-SEASON BREWERS?
GEE, SID, I DON'T KNOW.. ...I'VE GOT SOME GARDENING TO DO..
BOY... SOMETIMES I REALLY WISH I HAD A WIFE.. THEN I COULD COMPLAIN ABOUT HER COOKING!
HEY, THAT'S BETWEEN YOU AND.. ..UH..WELL, IT'S YOUR DECISION!
GRIFFY
3.27
THERE'S A BIG, WIDE WORLD OUT THERE, IFFY! WHA'D'YA SAY WE MAKE A FEW OBLIQUE REFERENCES TO IT!!
LEMME GET BACK TO YOU ON THAT, SID!!


ZIPPY
"YA GOTTA LOVE IT!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
SIDNEY the PINHEAD & IFFY, HIS CRYPTIC COMPANION, LEAVE THE HOUSE BRIEFLY, AS THEY DO EVERY FRIDAY AT 11:45..
LET'S DO SOMETHING TOTALLY MAINSTREAM!!
WELL, WE COULD BOWL.. ..OR SHOP AT RADIO SHACK.. ..OR SEE "HOME ALONE" TWICE IN ONE DAY!
GRIFFY
OR, WE COULD BECOME PRESBYTERIANS, SCOTCH-GUARD OUR COUCHES & PLAY SUPER MARIO ON OUR GAMEBOYS!
WE COULD COLLECT LLADRO, WATCH COSBY RERUNS & TIE YELLOW RIBBONS ON OLD OAK TREES!
HEY, I'VE GOT IT! LET'S BE MANIPULATED BY AUTHORITY FIGURES TO HATE A DIFFERENT BOGEYMAN EVERY YEAR!
KHOMEINI, KHADAFY, NORIEGA, SADDAM HUSSEIN.. ..I DON'T KNOW..I JUST DON'T KNOW..
3-29
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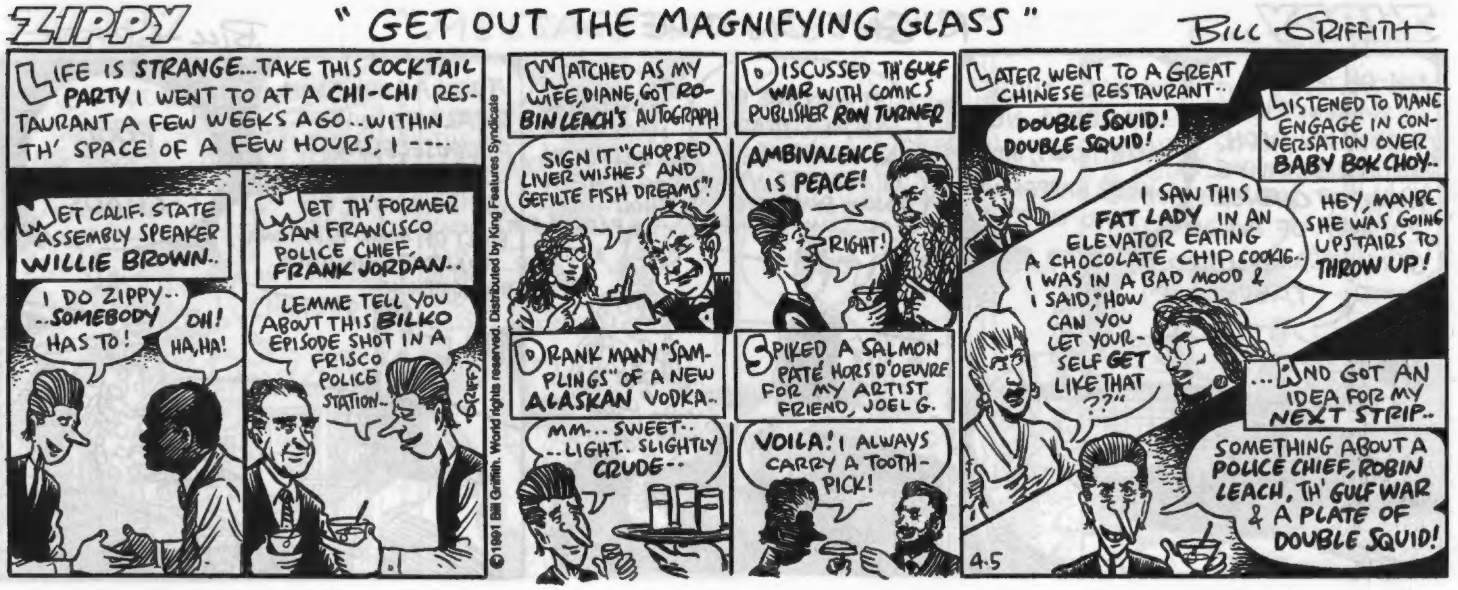
BOY, THIS DOMINO'S PIZZA IS GREAT, ISN'T IT?! AUTHENTIC ITALIAN CUISINE AT IT'S VERY BEST!
PINEAPPLE? OR PEPPERONI? ...I DON'T KNOW..I JUST DON'T KNOW..


ZIPPY
" GET OUT THE MAGNIFYING GLASS "
BILL GRIFFITH
LIFE IS STRANGE...TAKE THIS COCKTAIL PARTY I WENT TO AT A CHI-CHI RESTAURANT A FEW WEEKS AGO..WITHIN TH' SPACE OF A FEW HOURS, I ----
MET CALIF. STATE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER WILLIE BROWN..
I DO ZIPPY.. ..SOMEBODY HAS TO!
OH! HA,HA!
MET TH' FORMER SAN FRANCISCO POLICE CHIEF, FRANK JORDAN..
LEMME TELL YOU ABOUT THIS BILKO EPISODE SHOT IN A FRISCO POLICE STATION..
GRIFFY
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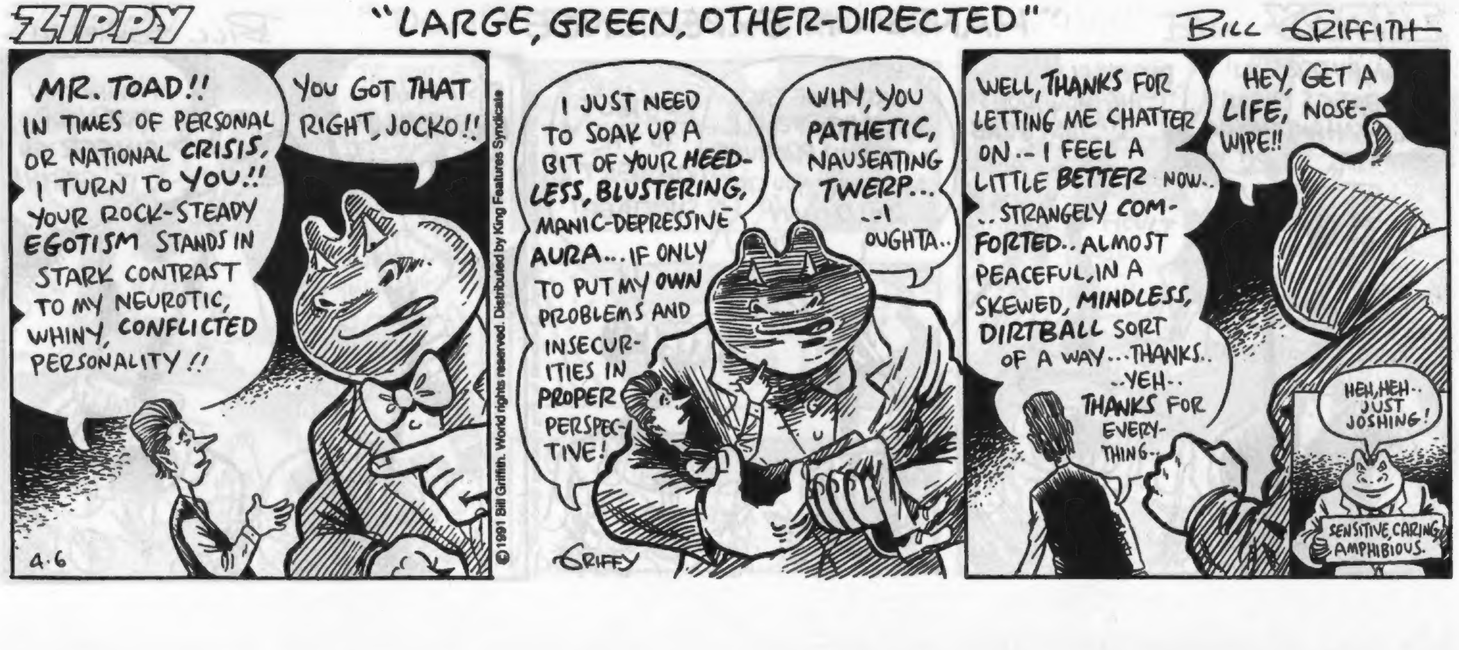
WATCHED AS MY WIFE, DIANE, GOT ROBIN LEACH'S AUTOGRAPH
SIGN IT "CHOPPED LIVER WISHES AND GEFILTE FISH DREAMS"!
DRANK MANY "SAMPLINGS" OF A NEW ALASKAN VODKA..
MM... SWEET.. ..LIGHT.. SLIGHTLY CRUDE--
DISCUSSED TH' GULF WAR WITH COMICS PUBLISHER RON TURNER
AMBIVALENCE IS PEACE!
RIGHT!
SPIKED A SALMON PATÉ HORS D'OEUVRE FOR MY ARTIST FRIEND, JOEL G.
VOILA! I ALWAYS CARRY A TOOTH-PICK!
LATER, WENT TO A GREAT CHINESE RESTAURANT..
DOUBLE SQUID! DOUBLE SQUID!
LISTENED TO DIANE ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION OVER BABY BOK CHOY..
I SAW THIS FAT LADY IN AN ELEVATOR EATING A CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE.. I WAS IN A BAD MOOD & I SAID, "HOW CAN YOU LET YOURSELF GET LIKE THAT ??"
HEY, MAYBE SHE WAS GOING UPSTAIRS TO THROW UP!
...AND GOT AN IDEA FOR MY NEXT STRIP..
SOMETHING ABOUT A POLICE CHIEF, ROBIN LEACH, TH' GULF WAR & A PLATE OF DOUBLE SQUID!
4-5


ZIPPY
"LARGE, GREEN, OTHER-DIRECTED"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD!! IN TIMES OF PERSONAL OR NATIONAL CRISIS, I TURN TO YOU!! YOUR ROCK-STEADY EGOTISM STANDS IN STARK CONTRAST TO MY NEUROTIC, WHINY, CONFLICTED PERSONALITY!!
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, JOCKO!!
4-6
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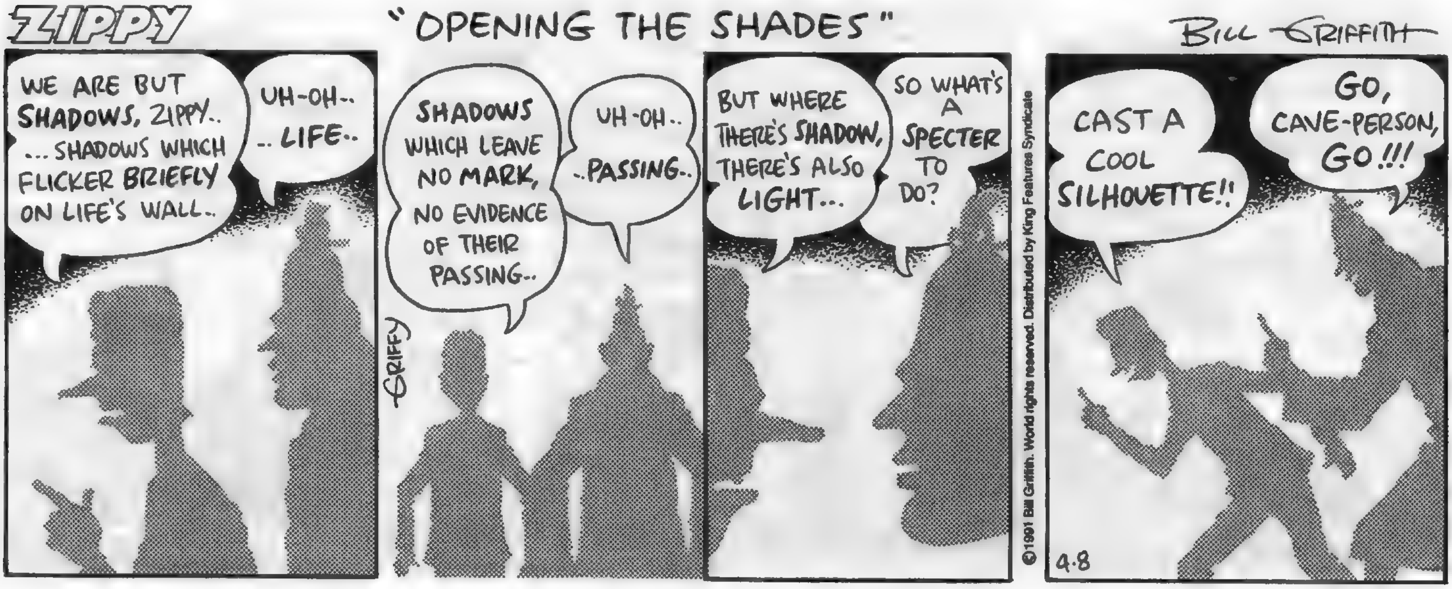
I JUST NEED TO SOAK UP A BIT OF YOUR HEEDLESS, BLUSTERING, MANIC-DEPRESSIVE AURA... IF ONLY TO PUT MY OWN PROBLEMS AND INSECURITIES IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE!
WHY, YOU PATHETIC, NAUSEATING TWERP... ..I OUGHTA..
GRIFFY
WELL, THANKS FOR LETTING ME CHATTER ON..- I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER NOW.. ..STRANGELY COMFORTED.. ALMOST PEACEFUL, IN A SKEWED, MINDLESS, DIRTBALL SORT OF A WAY...THANKS.. ..YEH.. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING..
HEY, GET A LIFE, NOSE-WIPE!!
HEH, HEH.. JUST JOSHING!
SENSITIVE, CARING AMPHIBIOUS.


ZIPPY
"OPENING THE SHADES"
BILL GRIFFITH
WE ARE BUT SHADOWS, ZIPPY.. ...SHADOWS WHICH FLICKER BRIEFLY ON LIFE'S WALL..
UH-OH.. ..LIFE..
SHADOWS WHICH LEAVE NO MARK, NO EVIDENCE OF THEIR PASSING..
UH-OH.. ..PASSING..
GRIFFY
BUT WHERE THERE'S SHADOW, THERE'S ALSO LIGHT...
SO WHAT'S A SPECTER TO DO?
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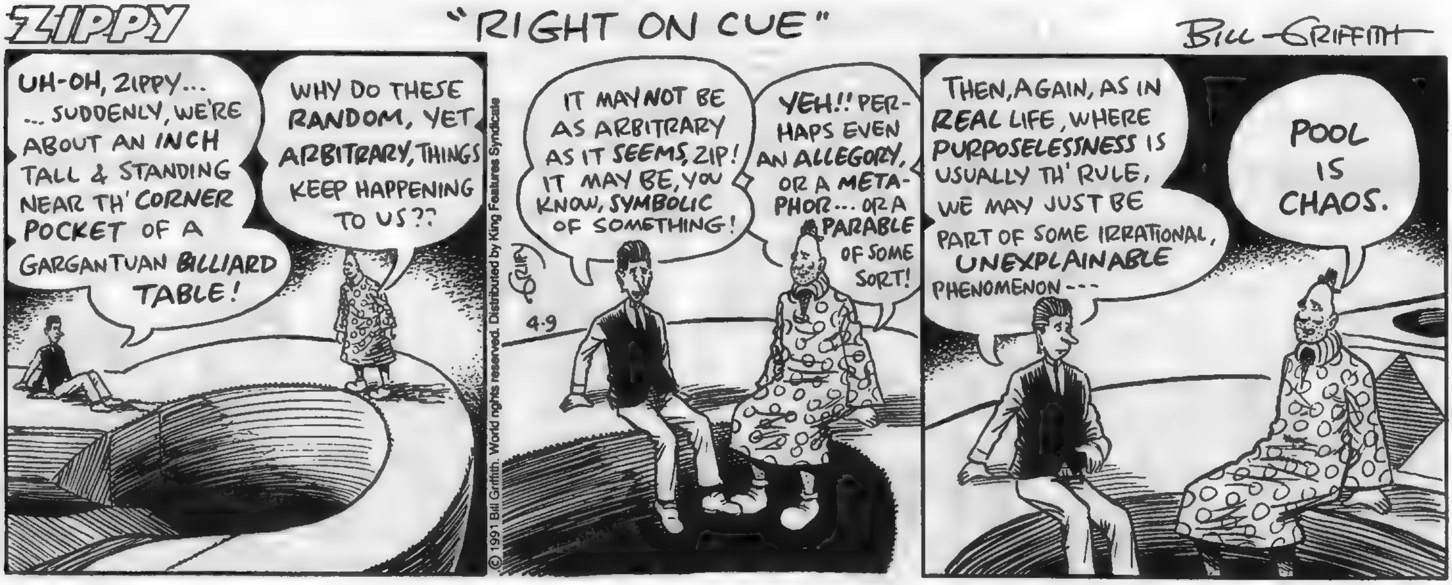
CAST A COOL SILHOUETTE!!
GO, CAVE-PERSON, GO!!!
4.8


ZIPPY
"RIGHT ON CUE"
BILL GRIFFITH
UH-OH, ZIPPY... ...SUDDENLY, WE'RE ABOUT AN INCH TALL & STANDING NEAR TH' CORNER POCKET OF A GARGANTUAN BILLIARD TABLE!
WHY DO THESE RANDOM, YET ARBITRARY, THINGS KEEP HAPPENING TO US??
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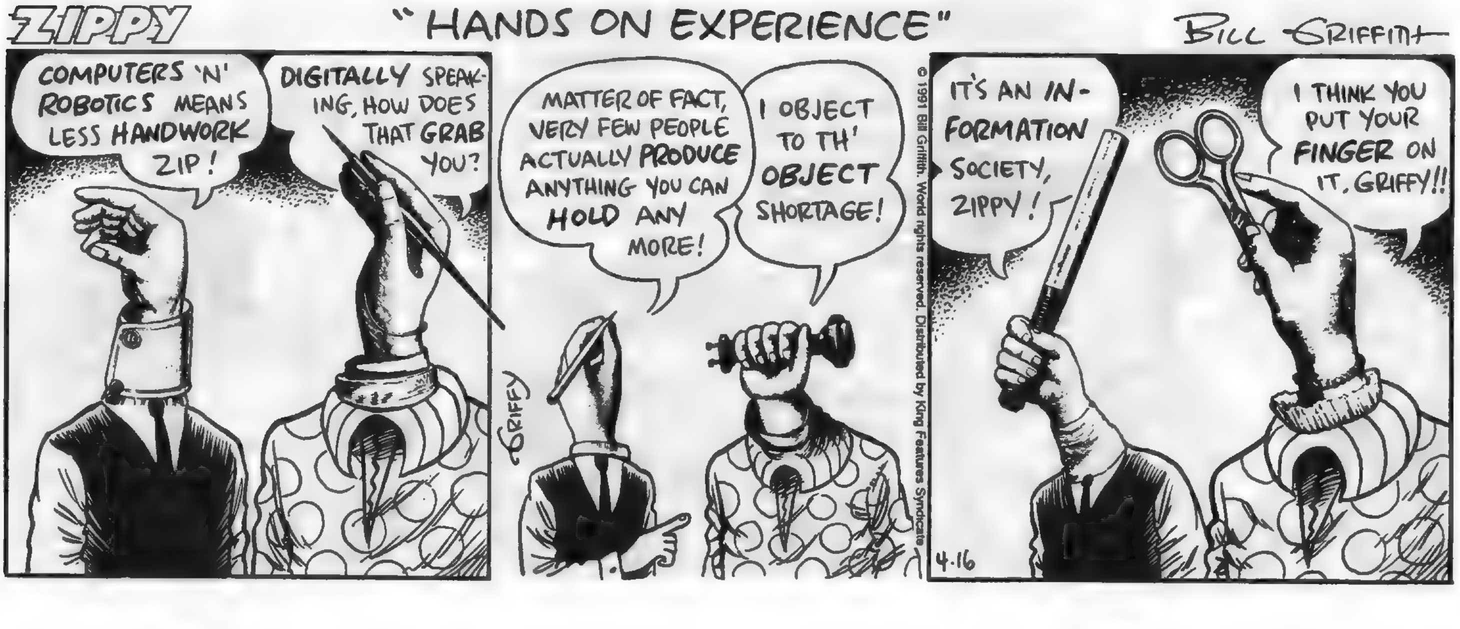
GRIFFY
4.9
IT MAY NOT BE AS ARBITRARY AS IT SEEMS, ZIP! IT MAY BE, YOU KNOW, SYMBOLIC OF SOMETHING!
YEH!! PERHAPS EVEN AN ALLEGORY, OR A METAPHOR... OR A PARABLE OF SOME SORT!
THEN, AGAIN, AS IN REAL LIFE, WHERE PURPOSELESSNESS IS USUALLY TH' RULE, WE MAY JUST BE PART OF SOME IRRATIONAL, UNEXPLAINABLE PHENOMENON---
POOL IS CHAOS.


ZIPPY
"HANDS ON EXPERIENCE"
BILL GRIFFITH
COMPUTERS 'N' ROBOTICS MEANS LESS HANDWORK ZIP!
DIGITALLY SPEAKING, HOW DOES THAT GRAB YOU?
GRIFFY
MATTER OF FACT, VERY FEW PEOPLE ACTUALLY PRODUCE ANYTHING YOU CAN HOLD ANY MORE!
I OBJECT TO TH' OBJECT SHORTAGE!
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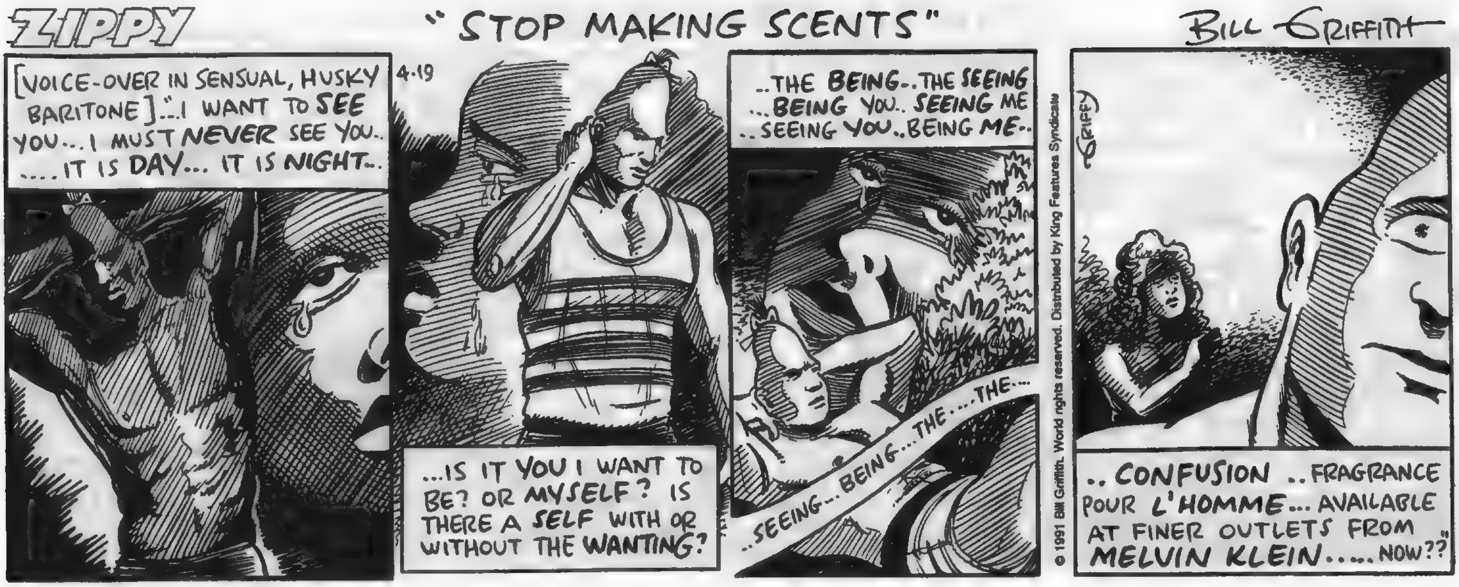
IT'S AN INFORMATION SOCIETY, ZIPPY!
I THINK YOU PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT, GRIFFY!!!
4.16


ZIPPY
"STOP MAKING SCENTS"
BILL GRIFFITH
4-19
[VOICE-OVER IN SENSUAL, HUSKY BARITONE]... I WANT TO SEE YOU... I MUST NEVER SEE YOU.. .... IT IS DAY... IT IS NIGHT..
...IS IT YOU I WANT TO BE? OR MYSELF? IS THERE A SELF WITH OR WITHOUT THE WANTING?
..THE BEING..THE SEEING ..BEING YOU.. SEEING ME ..SEEING YOU..BEING ME..
..SEEING... BEING... THE.... THE....
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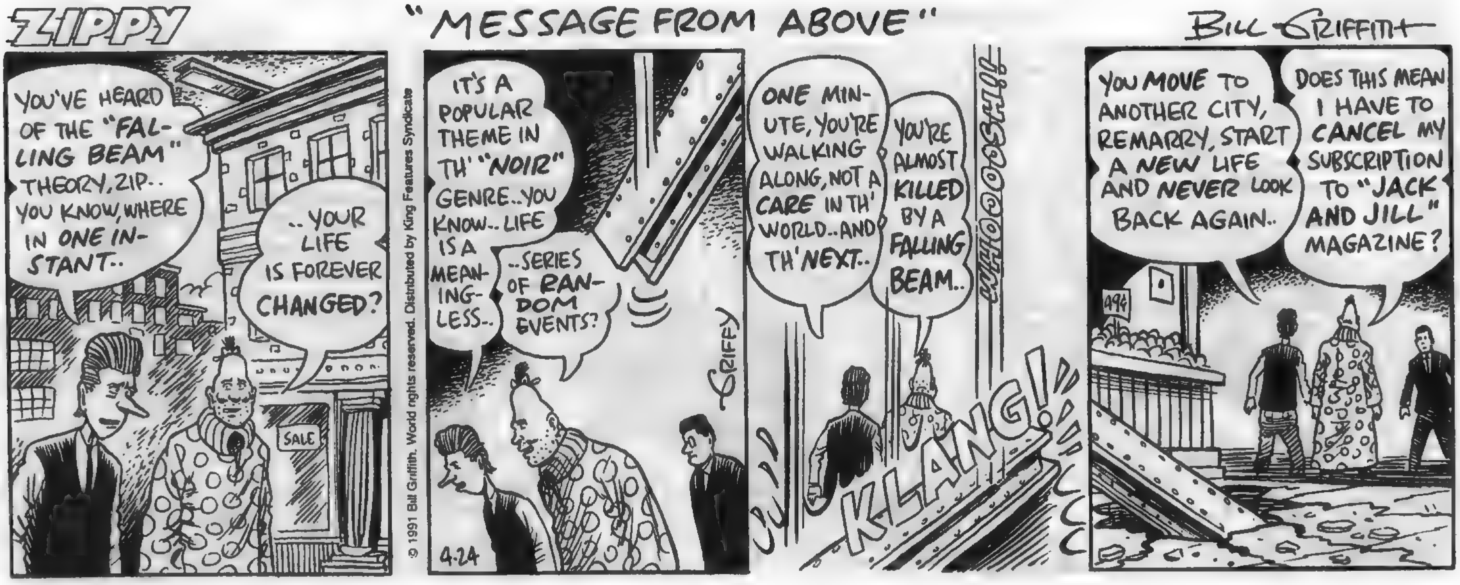
GRIFFY
.. CONFUSION .. FRAGRANCE POUR L'HOMME... AVAILABLE AT FINER OUTLETS FROM MELVIN KLEIN..... NOW??


ZIPPY
"MESSAGE FROM ABOVE"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU'VE HEARD OF THE "FALLING BEAM" THEORY, ZIP.. YOU KNOW, WHERE IN ONE INSTANT..
..YOUR LIFE IS FOREVER CHANGED?
SALE
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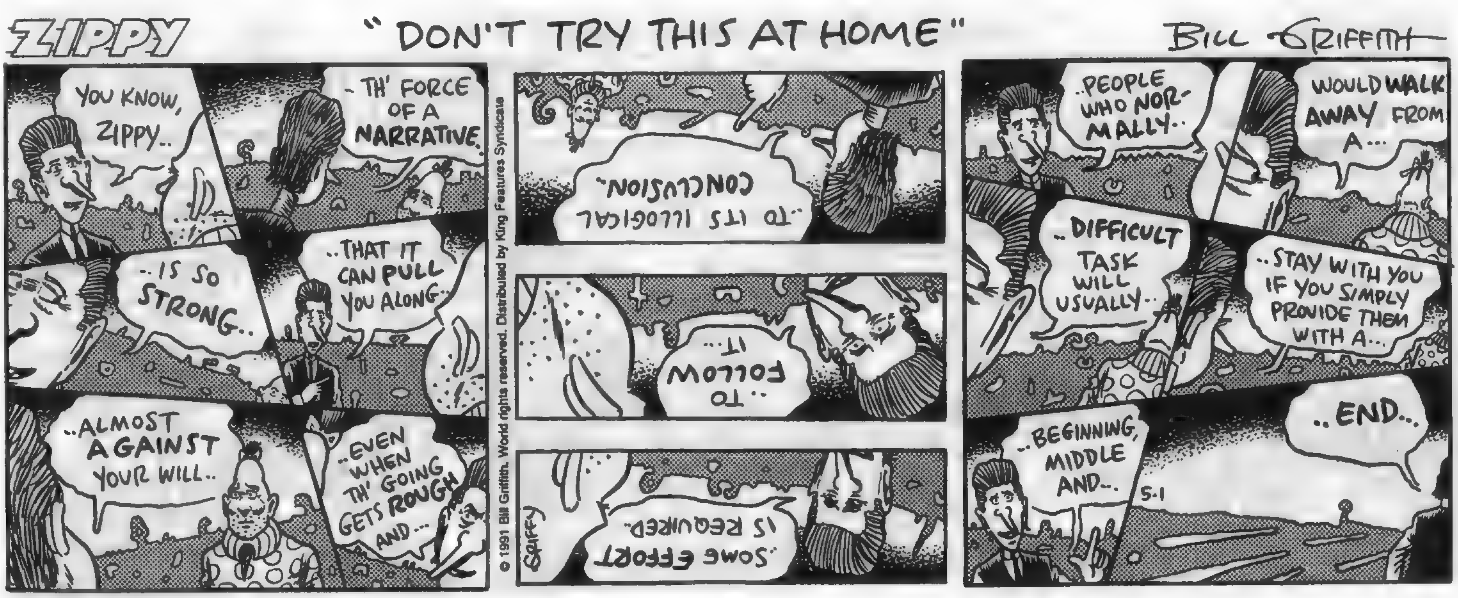
4-24
IT'S A POPULAR THEME IN TH' "NOIR" GENRE..YOU KNOW.. LIFE IS A MEANINGLESS..
..SERIES OF RANDOM EVENTS?
GRIFFY
ONE MINUTE, YOU'RE WALKING ALONG, NOT A CARE IN TH' WORLD.. AND TH' NEXT..
YOU'RE ALMOST KILLED BY A FALLING BEAM..
WHOOOOSH!!
KLANG!!
YOU MOVE TO ANOTHER CITY, REMARRY, START A NEW LIFE AND NEVER LOOK BACK AGAIN..
DOES THIS MEAN I HAVE TO CANCEL MY SUBSCRIPTION TO "JACK AND JILL" MAGAZINE?
49¢


ZIPPY
"DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW, ZIPPY..
..TH' FORCE OF A NARRATIVE..
..IS SO STRONG..
..THAT IT CAN PULL YOU ALONG..
..ALMOST AGAINST YOUR WILL..
..EVEN WHEN TH' GOING GETS ROUGH AND...
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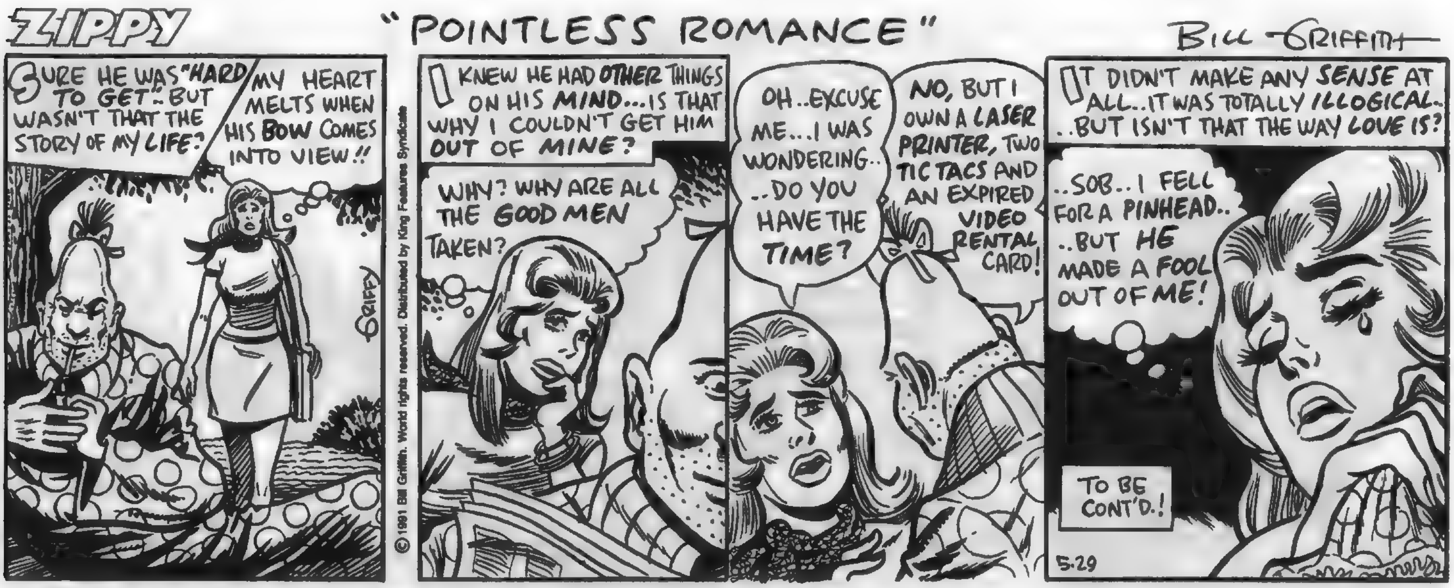
..TO ITS ILLOGICAL CONCLUSION.
..TO FOLLOW IT..
..SOME EFFORT IS REQUIRED.
GRIFFY
..PEOPLE WHO NORMALLY..
WOULD WALK AWAY FROM A...
..DIFFICULT TASK WILL USUALLY..
..STAY WITH YOU IF YOU SIMPLY PROVIDE THEM WITH A...
..BEGINNING, MIDDLE AND...
..END..
5-1


ZIPPY
"POINTLESS ROMANCE"
BILL GRIFFITH
SURE HE WAS "HARD TO GET"-- BUT WASN'T THAT THE STORY OF MY LIFE?
MY HEART MELTS WHEN HIS BOW COMES INTO VIEW!!
GRIFFY
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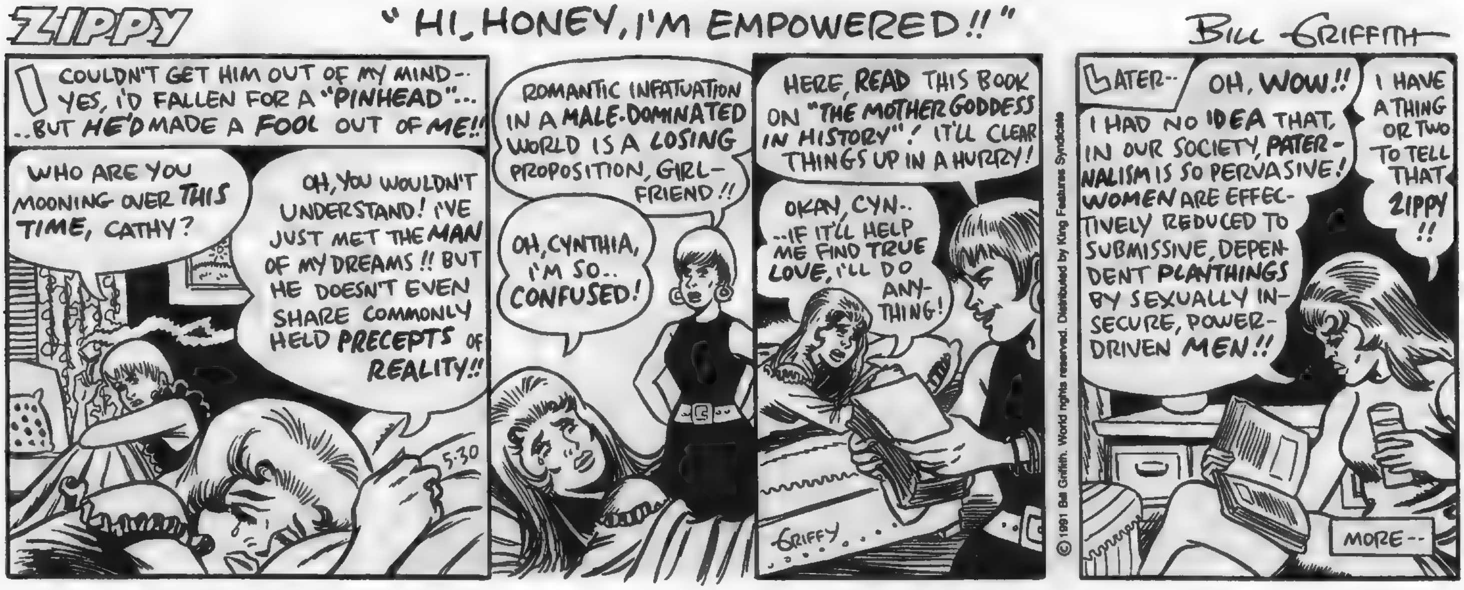
I KNEW HE HAD OTHER THINGS ON HIS MIND... IS THAT WHY I COULDN'T GET HIM OUT OF MINE?
WHY? WHY ARE ALL THE GOOD MEN TAKEN?
OH.. EXCUSE ME... I WAS WONDERING.. ..DO YOU HAVE THE TIME?
NO, BUT I OWN A LASER PRINTER, TWO TIC TACS AND AN EXPIRED VIDEO RENTAL CARD!
IT DIDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE AT ALL.. IT WAS TOTALLY ILLOGICAL.. ..BUT ISN'T THAT THE WAY LOVE IS?
..SOB.. I FELL FOR A PINHEAD.. ..BUT HE MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME!
TO BE CONT'D.!
5-29


ZIPPY
"HI, HONEY, I'M EMPOWERED!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
I COULDN'T GET HIM OUT OF MY MIND-- YES, I'D FALLEN FOR A "PINHEAD"... ..BUT HE'D MADE A FOOL OUT OF ME!!
WHO ARE YOU MOONING OVER THIS TIME, CATHY?
OH, YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND! I'VE JUST MET THE MAN OF MY DREAMS!! BUT HE DOESN'T EVEN SHARE COMMONLY HELD PRECEPTS OF REALITY!!
5-30
ROMANTIC INFATUATION IN A MALE-DOMINATED WORLD IS A LOSING PROPOSITION, GIRLFRIEND!!
OH, CYNTHIA, I'M SO.. CONFUSED!
HERE, READ THIS BOOK ON "THE MOTHER GODDESS IN HISTORY"! IT'LL CLEAR THINGS UP IN A HURRY!
OKAY, CYN.. ..IF IT'LL HELP ME FIND TRUE LOVE, I'LL DO ANYTHING!
GRIFFY
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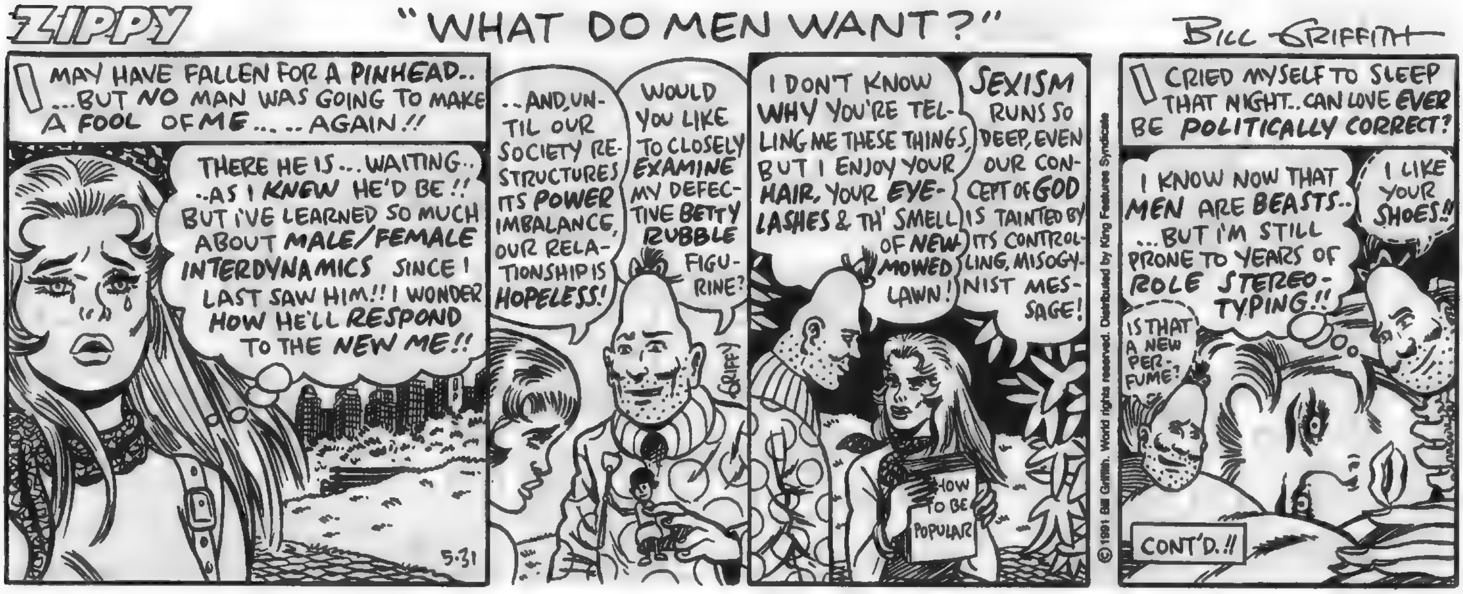
LATER--
OH, WOW!! I HAD NO IDEA THAT, IN OUR SOCIETY, PATERNALISM IS SO PERVASIVE! WOMEN ARE EFFECTIVELY REDUCED TO SUBMISSIVE, DEPENDENT PLAYTHINGS BY SEXUALLY INSECURE, POWER-DRIVEN MEN!!
I HAVE A THING OR TWO TO TELL THAT ZIPPY!!
MORE--


ZIPPY
"WHAT DO MEN WANT?"
BILL GRIFFITH
I MAY HAVE FALLEN FOR A PINHEAD.. ...BUT NO MAN WAS GOING TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME... ...AGAIN!!
THERE HE IS... WAITING.. ..AS I KNEW HE'D BE!! BUT I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH ABOUT MALE/FEMALE INTERDYNAMICS SINCE I LAST SAW HIM!! I WONDER HOW HE'LL RESPOND TO THE NEW ME!!
5-31
..AND, UNTIL OUR SOCIETY RESTRUCTURES ITS POWER IMBALANCE, OUR RELATIONSHIP IS HOPELESS!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO CLOSELY EXAMINE MY DEFECTIVE BETTY RUBBLE FIGURINE?
GRIFFY
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE TELLING ME THESE THINGS, BUT I ENJOY YOUR HAIR, YOUR EYELASHES & TH' SMELL OF NEW-MOWED LAWN!
SEXISM RUNS SO DEEP, EVEN OUR CONCEPT OF GOD IS TAINTED BY ITS CONTROLLING, MISOGYNIST MESSAGE!
HOW TO BE POPULAR
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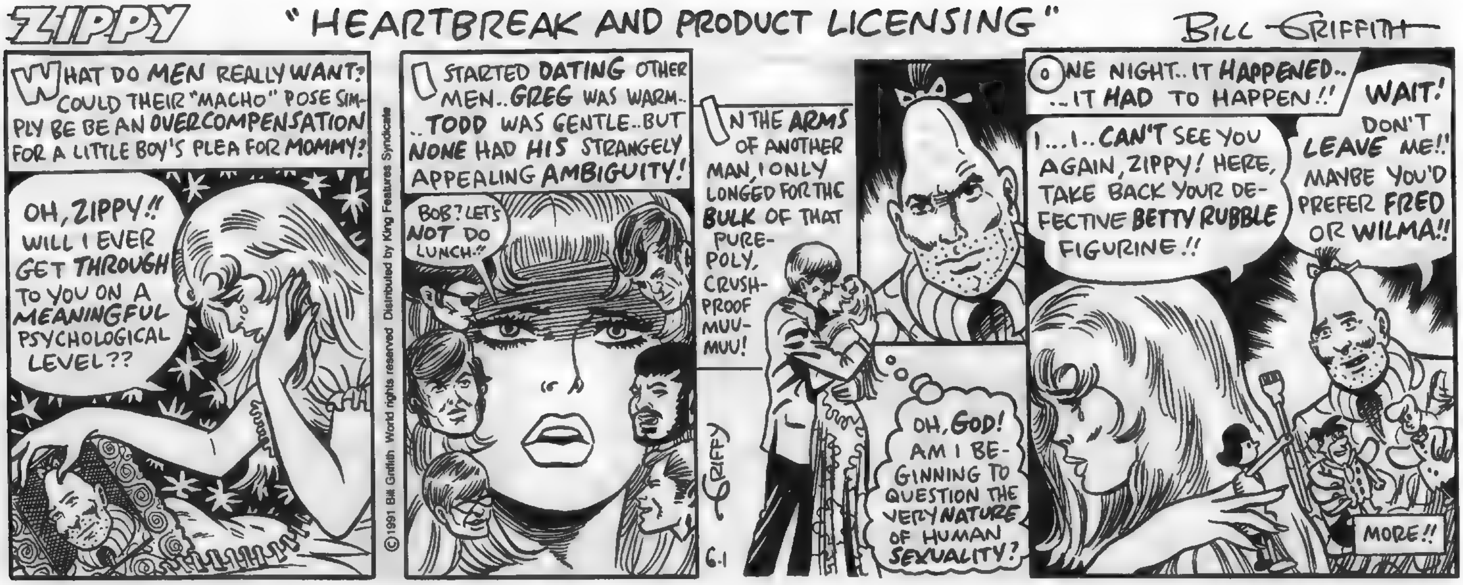
I CRIED MYSELF TO SLEEP THAT NIGHT.. CAN LOVE EVER BE POLITICALLY CORRECT?
I KNOW NOW THAT MEN ARE BEASTS.. ..BUT I'M STILL PRONE TO YEARS OF ROLE STEREOTYPING!!
I LIKE YOUR SHOES!!
IS THAT A NEW PERFUME?
CONT'D.!!


ZIPPY
"HEARTBREAK AND PRODUCT LICENSING"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT DO MEN REALLY WANT? COULD THEIR "MACHO" POSE SIMPLY BE BE AN OVERCOMPENSATION FOR A LITTLE BOY'S PLEA FOR MOMMY?
OH, ZIPPY!! WILL I EVER GET THROUGH TO YOU ON A MEANINGFUL PSYCHOLOGICAL LEVEL??
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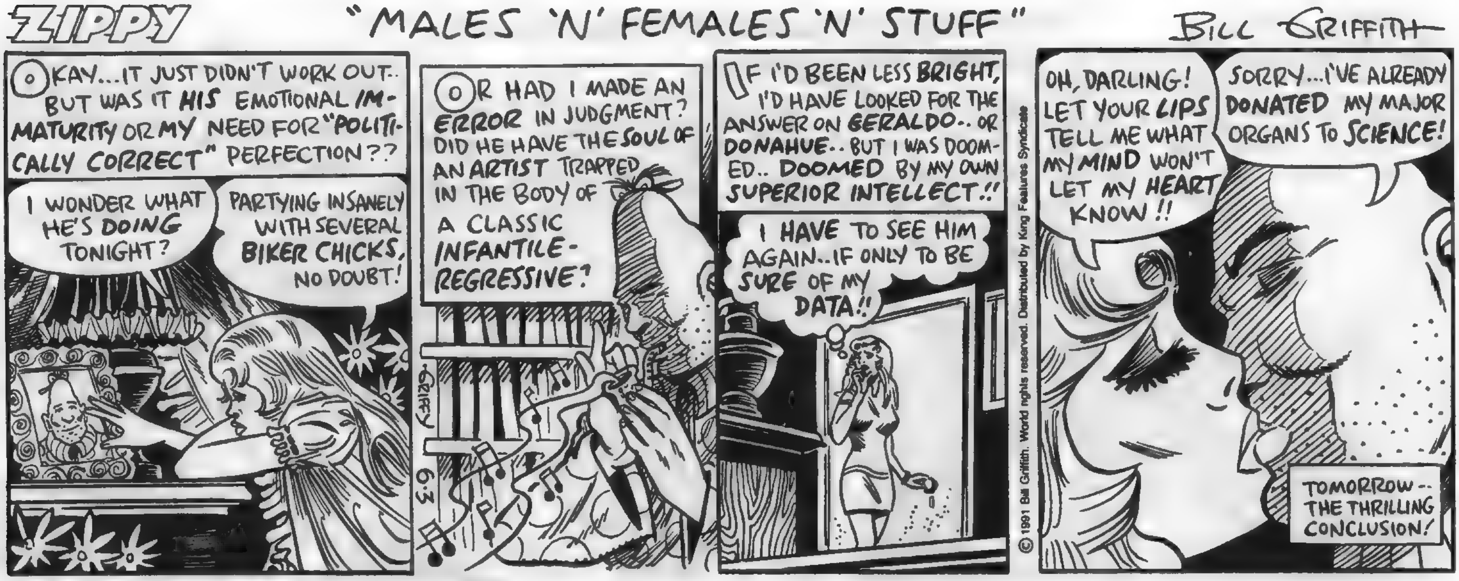
I STARTED DATING OTHER MEN.. GREG WAS WARM.. ..TODD WAS GENTLE..BUT NONE HAD HIS STRANGELY APPEALING AMBIGUITY!
BOB? LET'S NOT DO LUNCH..
GRIFFY
6.1
IN THE ARMS OF ANOTHER MAN, I ONLY LONGED FOR THE BULK OF THAT PURE-POLY, CRUSH-PROOF MUU-MUU!
OH, GOD! AM I BEGINNING TO QUESTION THE VERY NATURE OF HUMAN SEXUALITY?
ONE NIGHT.. IT HAPPENED.. ..IT HAD TO HAPPEN!!
I... I.. CAN'T SEE YOU AGAIN, ZIPPY! HERE, TAKE BACK YOUR DEFECTIVE BETTY RUBBLE FIGURINE!!
WAIT! DON'T LEAVE ME!! MAYBE YOU'D PREFER FRED OR WILMA!!
MORE!!


ZIPPY
"MALES 'N' FEMALES 'N' STUFF"
BILL GRIFFITH
OKAY... IT JUST DIDN'T WORK OUT.. BUT WAS IT HIS EMOTIONAL IMMATURITY OR MY NEED FOR "POLITICALLY CORRECT" PERFECTION??
I WONDER WHAT HE'S DOING TONIGHT?
PARTYING INSANELY WITH SEVERAL BIKER CHICKS, NO DOUBT!
OR HAD I MADE AN ERROR IN JUDGMENT? DID HE HAVE THE SOUL OF AN ARTIST TRAPPED IN THE BODY OF A CLASSIC INFANTILE-REGRESSIVE?
GRIFFY
6.3
IF I'D BEEN LESS BRIGHT, I'D HAVE LOOKED FOR THE ANSWER ON GERALDO.. OR DONAHUE.. BUT I WAS DOOMED.. DOOMED BY MY OWN SUPERIOR INTELLECT!!
I HAVE TO SEE HIM AGAIN.. IF ONLY TO BE SURE OF MY DATA!!
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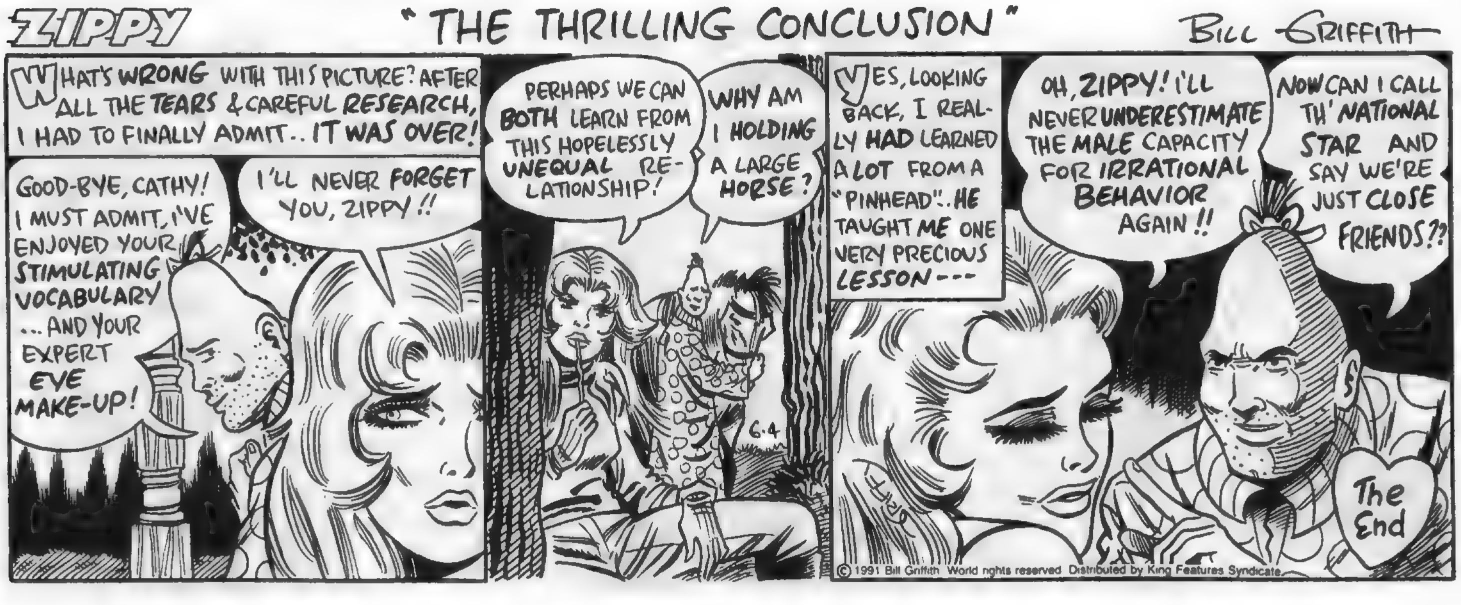
OH, DARLING! LET YOUR LIPS TELL ME WHAT MY MIND WON'T LET MY HEART KNOW!!
SORRY...I'VE ALREADY DONATED MY MAJOR ORGANS TO SCIENCE!
TOMORROW -- THE THRILLING CONCLUSION!


ZIPPY
"THE THRILLING CONCLUSION"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? AFTER ALL THE TEARS & CAREFUL RESEARCH, I HAD TO FINALLY ADMIT.. IT WAS OVER!
GOOD-BYE, CATHY! I MUST ADMIT, I'VE ENJOYED YOUR STIMULATING VOCABULARY ...AND YOUR EXPERT EYE MAKE-UP!
I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, ZIPPY!!
PERHAPS WE CAN BOTH LEARN FROM THIS HOPELESSLY UNEQUAL RELATIONSHIP!
WHY AM I HOLDING A LARGE HORSE?
6.4
YES, LOOKING BACK, I REALLY HAD LEARNED A LOT FROM A "PINHEAD"..HE TAUGHT ME ONE VERY PRECIOUS LESSON---
OH, ZIPPY! I'LL NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE MALE CAPACITY FOR IRRATIONAL BEHAVIOR AGAIN!!
NOW CAN I CALL TH' NATIONAL STAR AND SAY WE'RE JUST CLOSE FRIENDS??
GRIFFY
The End
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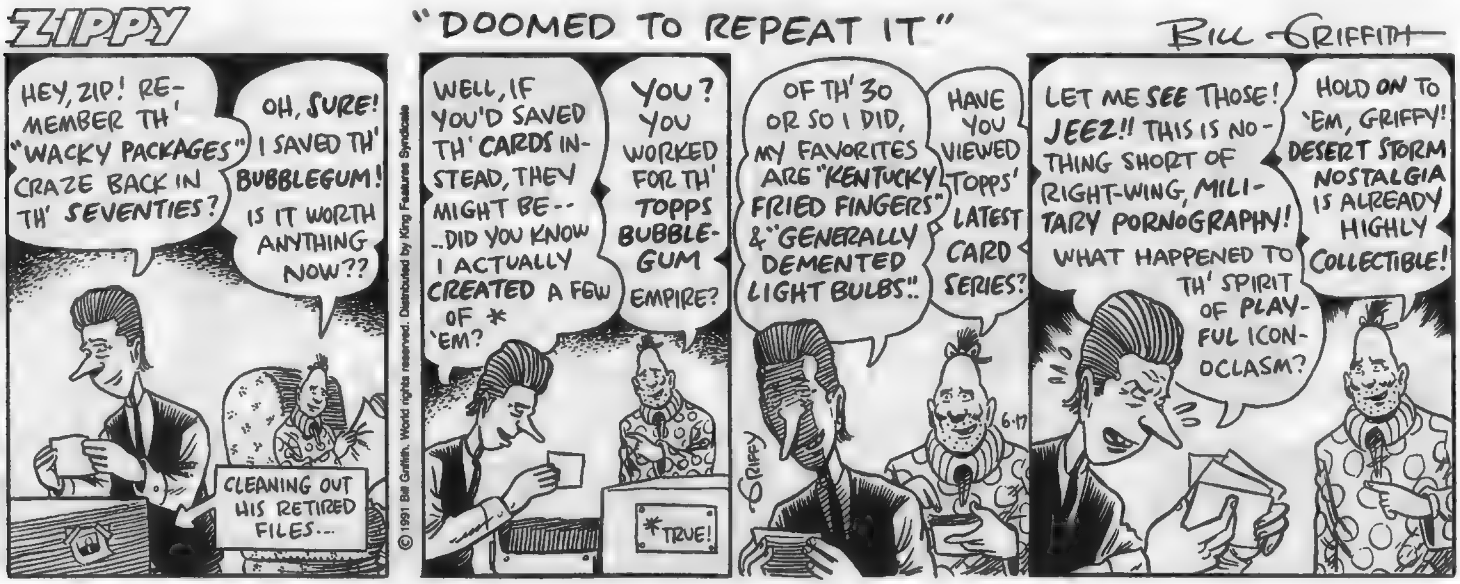
ZIPPY
"DOOMED TO REPEAT IT"
BILL GRIFFITH
HEY, ZIP! REMEMBER TH' "WACKY PACKAGES" CRAZE BACK IN TH' SEVENTIES?
OH, SURE! I SAVED TH' BUBBLEGUM! IS IT WORTH ANYTHING NOW??
CLEANING OUT HIS RETIRED FILES...
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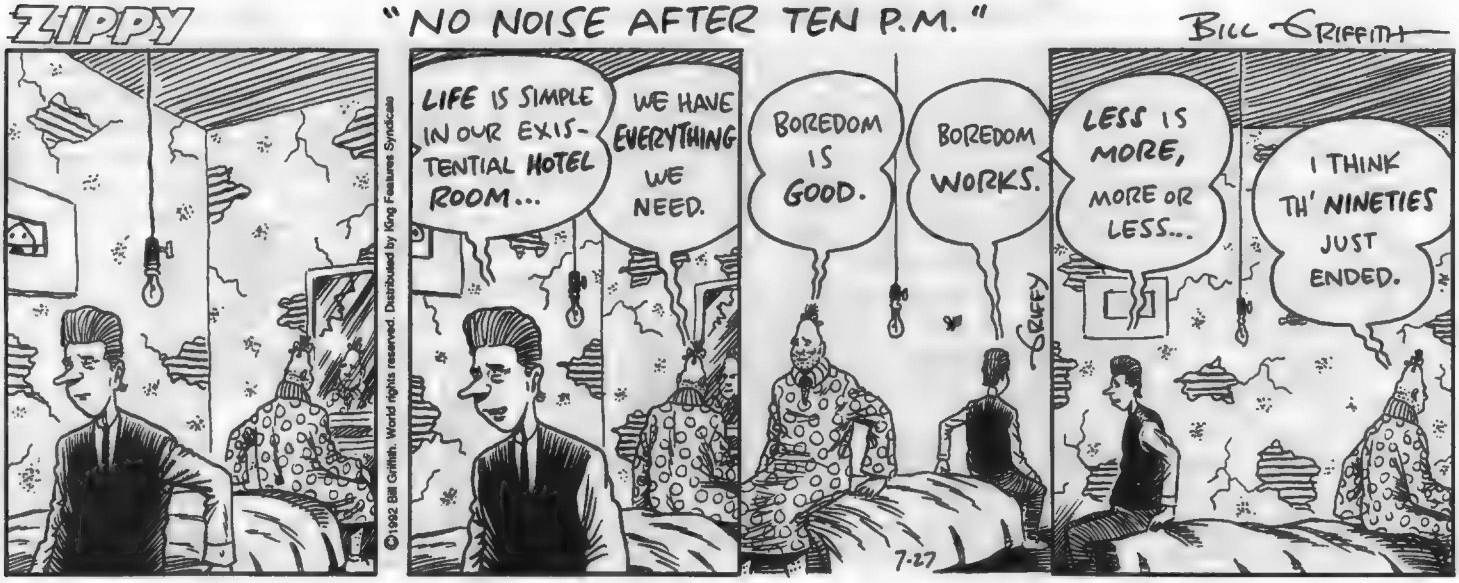
WELL, IF YOU'D SAVED TH' CARDS INSTEAD, THEY MIGHT BE -- ..DID YOU KNOW I ACTUALLY CREATED A FEW OF 'EM? *
YOU? YOU WORKED FOR TH' TOPPS BUBBLEGUM EMPIRE?
*TRUE!
OF TH' 30 OR SO I DID, MY FAVORITES ARE "KENTUCKY FRIED FINGERS" & "GENERALLY DEMENTED LIGHT BULBS"..
HAVE YOU VIEWED TOPPS' LATEST CARD SERIES?
GRIFFY
6-17
LET ME SEE THOSE! JEEZ!! THIS IS NOTHING SHORT OF RIGHT-WING, MILITARY PORNOGRAPHY! WHAT HAPPENED TO TH' SPIRIT OF PLAYFUL ICONOCLASM?
HOLD ON TO 'EM, GRIFFY! DESERT STORM NOSTALGIA IS ALREADY HIGHLY COLLECTIBLE!


ZIPPY
"NO NOISE AFTER TEN P.M."
BILL GRIFFITH
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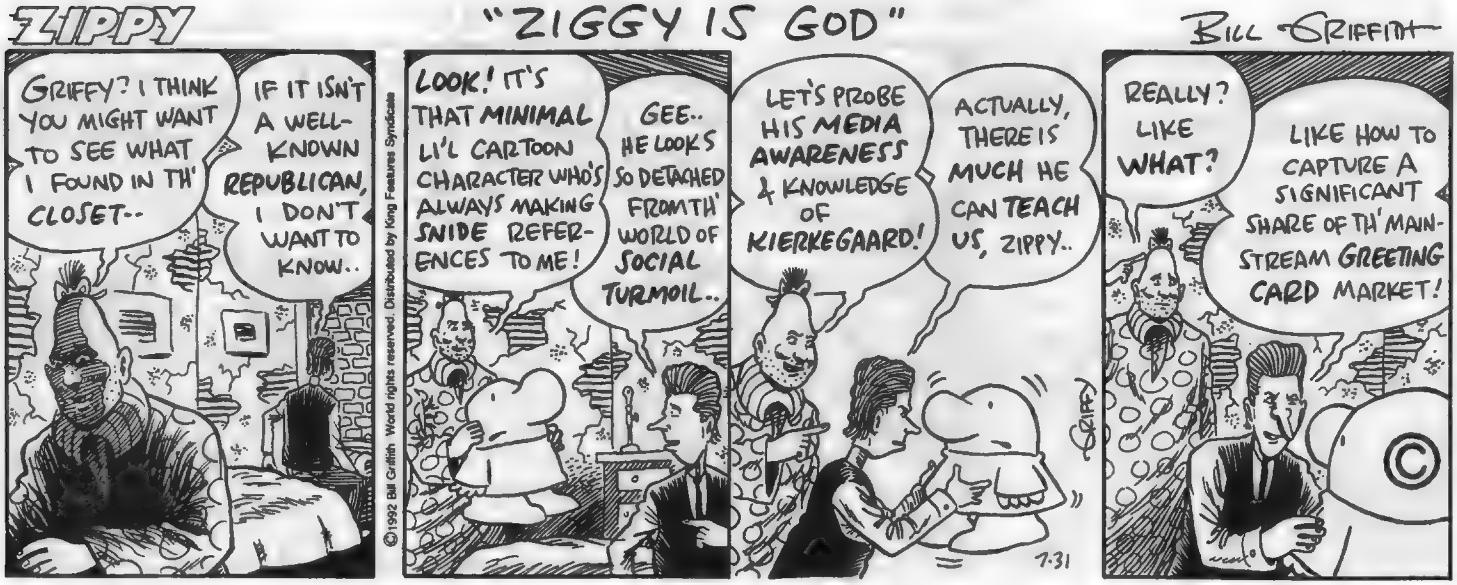
LIFE IS SIMPLE IN OUR EXISTENTIAL HOTEL ROOM...
WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED.
BOREDOM IS GOOD.
BOREDOM WORKS.
GRIFFY
7-27
LESS IS MORE, MORE OR LESS...
I THINK TH' NINETIES JUST ENDED.


ZIPPY
"ZIGGY IS GOD"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY? I THINK YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEE WHAT I FOUND IN TH' CLOSET..
IF IT ISN'T A WELL-KNOWN REPUBLICAN, I DON'T WANT TO KNOW..
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LOOK! IT'S THAT MINIMAL LI'L CARTOON CHARACTER WHO'S ALWAYS MAKING SNIDE REFERENCES TO ME!
GEE.. HE LOOKS SO DETACHED FROM TH' WORLD OF SOCIAL TURMOIL..
LET'S PROBE HIS MEDIA AWARENESS & KNOWLEDGE OF KIERKEGAARD!
ACTUALLY, THERE IS MUCH HE CAN TEACH US, ZIPPY..
GRIFFY
7-31
REALLY? LIKE WHAT?
LIKE HOW TO CAPTURE A SIGNIFICANT SHARE OF TH' MAINSTREAM GREETING CARD MARKET!
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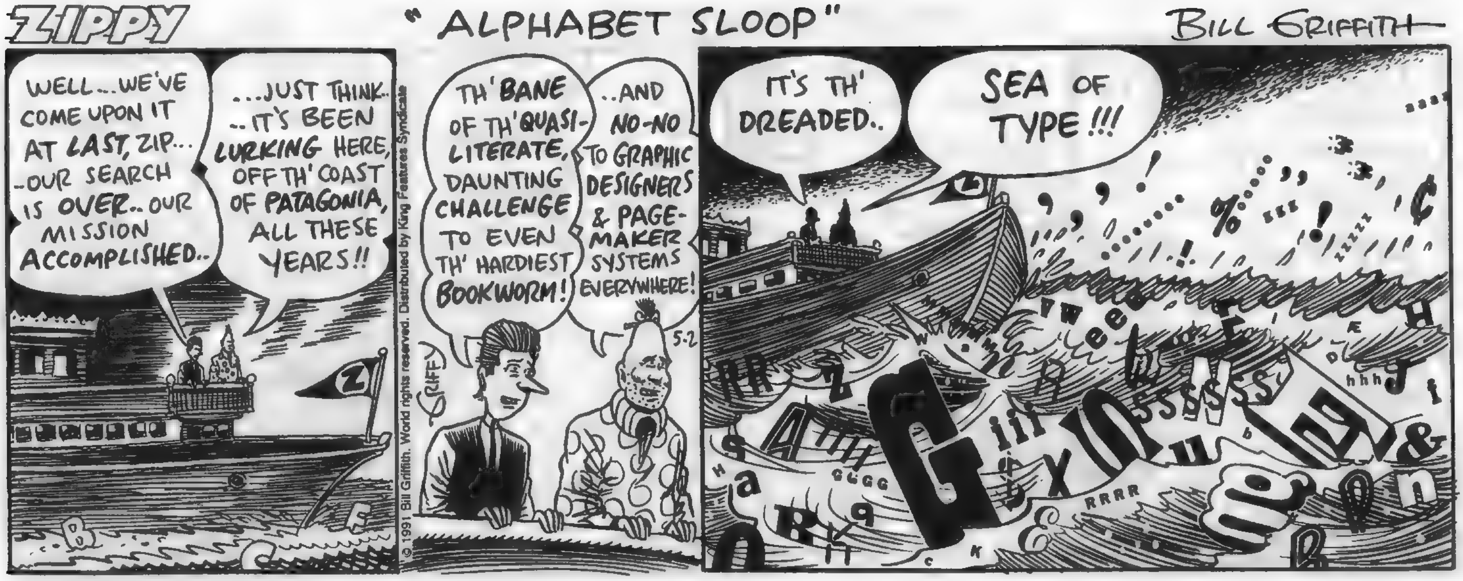
ZIPPY
"ALPHABET SLOOP"
BILL GRIFFITH
WELL... WE'VE COME UPON IT AT LAST, ZIP... --OUR SEARCH IS OVER.. OUR MISSION ACCOMPLISHED..
...JUST THINK.. --IT'S BEEN LURKING HERE, OFF TH' COAST OF PATAGONIA, ALL THESE YEARS!!
TH' BANE OF TH' QUASI-LITERATE, DAUNTING CHALLENGE TO EVEN TH' HARDIEST BOOKWORM!
..AND NO-NO TO GRAPHIC DESIGNERS & PAGE-MAKER SYSTEMS EVERYWHERE!
IT'S TH' DREADED..
SEA OF TYPE!!!
GRIFFY
5-2

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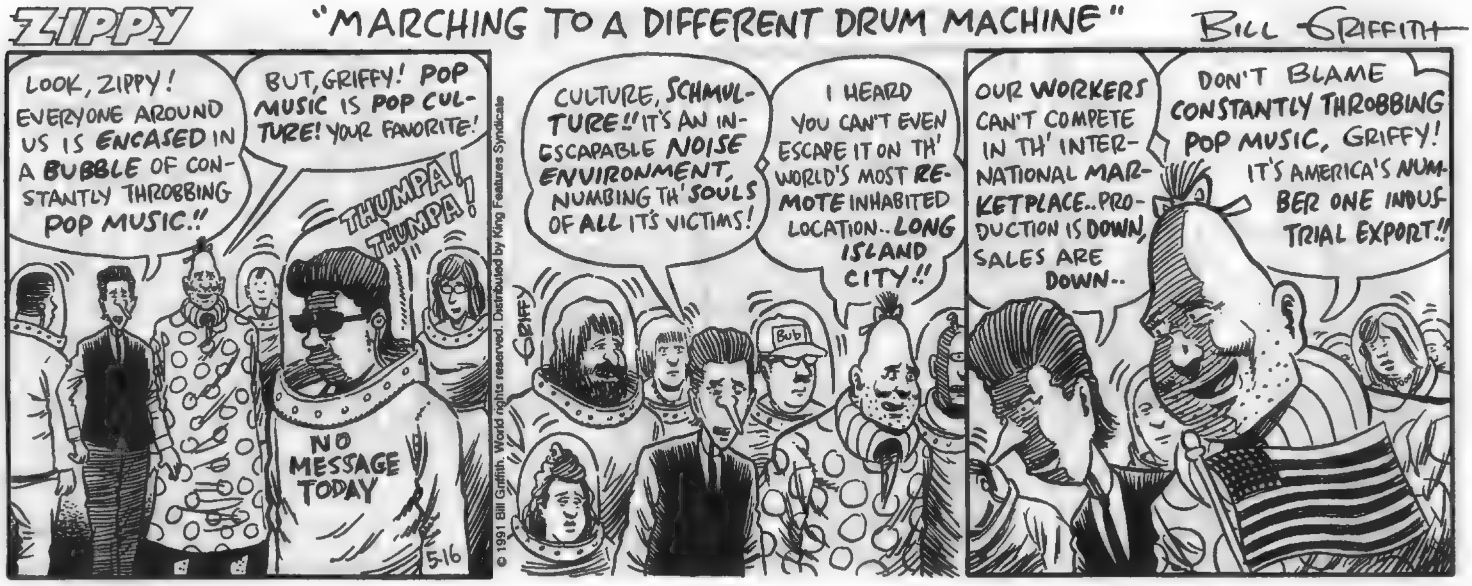
ZIPPY
"MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT DRUM MACHINE"
BILL GRIFFITH
LOOK, ZIPPY! EVERYONE AROUND US IS ENCASED IN A BUBBLE OF CONSTANTLY THROBBING POP MUSIC.!!
BUT, GRIFFY! POP MUSIC IS POP CULTURE! YOUR FAVORITE!
THUMPA! THUMPA!
NO MESSAGE TODAY
5-16
CULTURE, SCHMULTURE!! IT'S AN INESCAPABLE NOISE ENVIRONMENT, NUMBING TH' SOULS OF ALL IT'S VICTIMS!
I HEARD YOU CAN'T EVEN ESCAPE IT ON TH' WORLD'S MOST REMOTE INHABITED LOCATION.. LONG ISLAND CITY!!
Bub
GRIFFY
OUR WORKERS CAN'T COMPETE IN TH' INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE.. PRODUCTION IS DOWN, SALES ARE DOWN..
DON'T BLAME CONSTANTLY THROBBING POP MUSIC, GRIFFY! IT'S AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE INDUSTRIAL EXPORT!!

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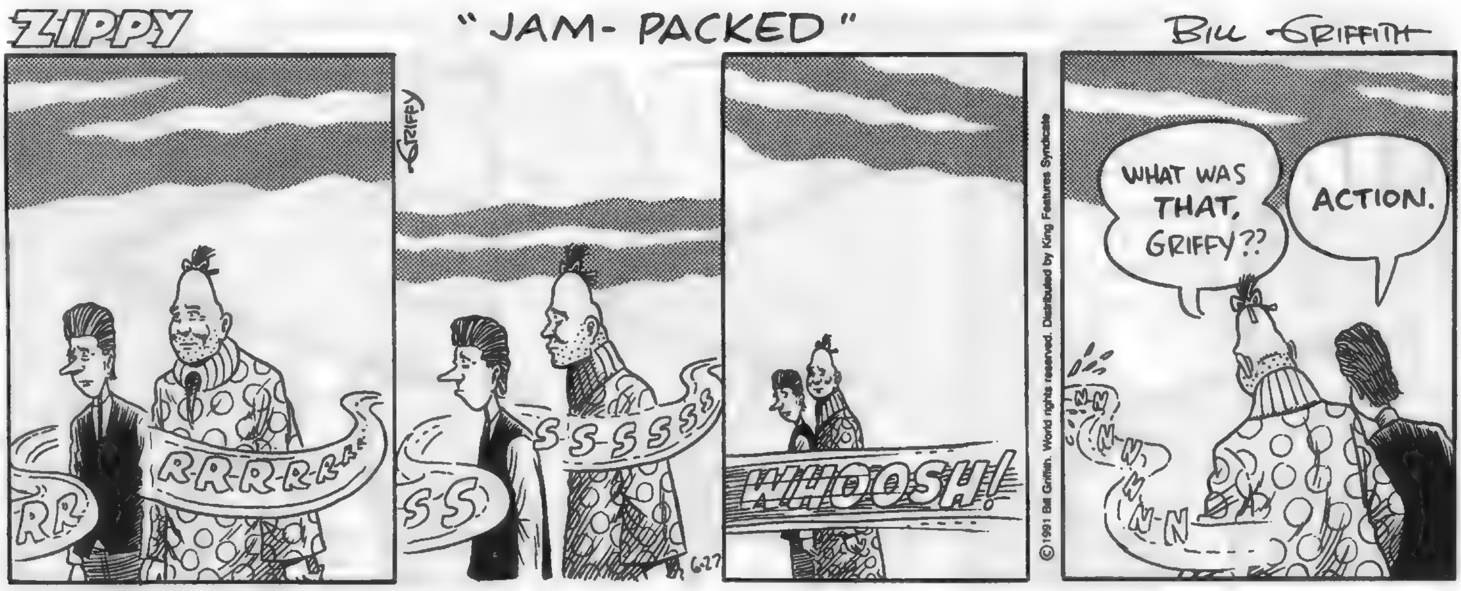
ZIPPY
"JAM- PACKED"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY
RR
R-R-R-R-R-R-R
S-S
S-S-S-S-S-S
6-27
WHOOSH!
WHAT WAS THAT, GRIFFY??
ACTION.
N-N-N-N-N-N-N

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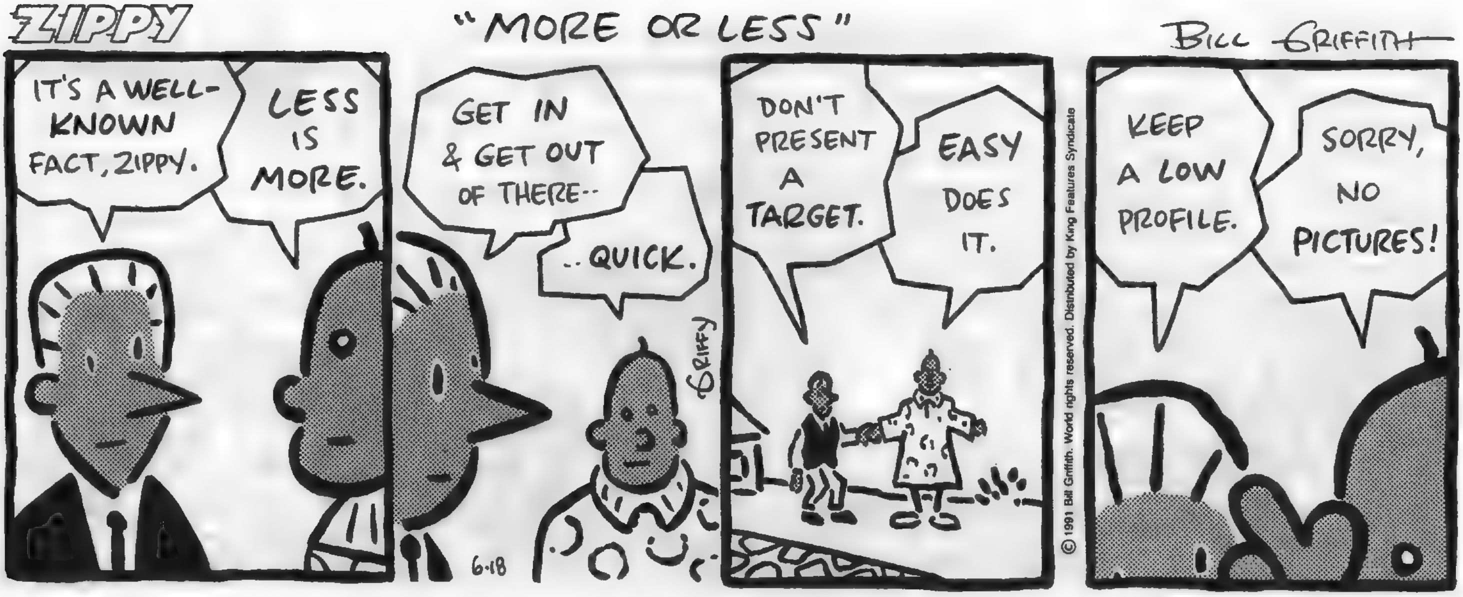
ZIPPY
"MORE OR LESS"
BILL GRIFFITH
IT'S A WELL-KNOWN FACT, ZIPPY.
LESS IS MORE.
GET IN & GET OUT OF THERE--
.. QUICK.
GRIFFY
6-18
DON'T PRESENT A TARGET.
EASY DOES IT.
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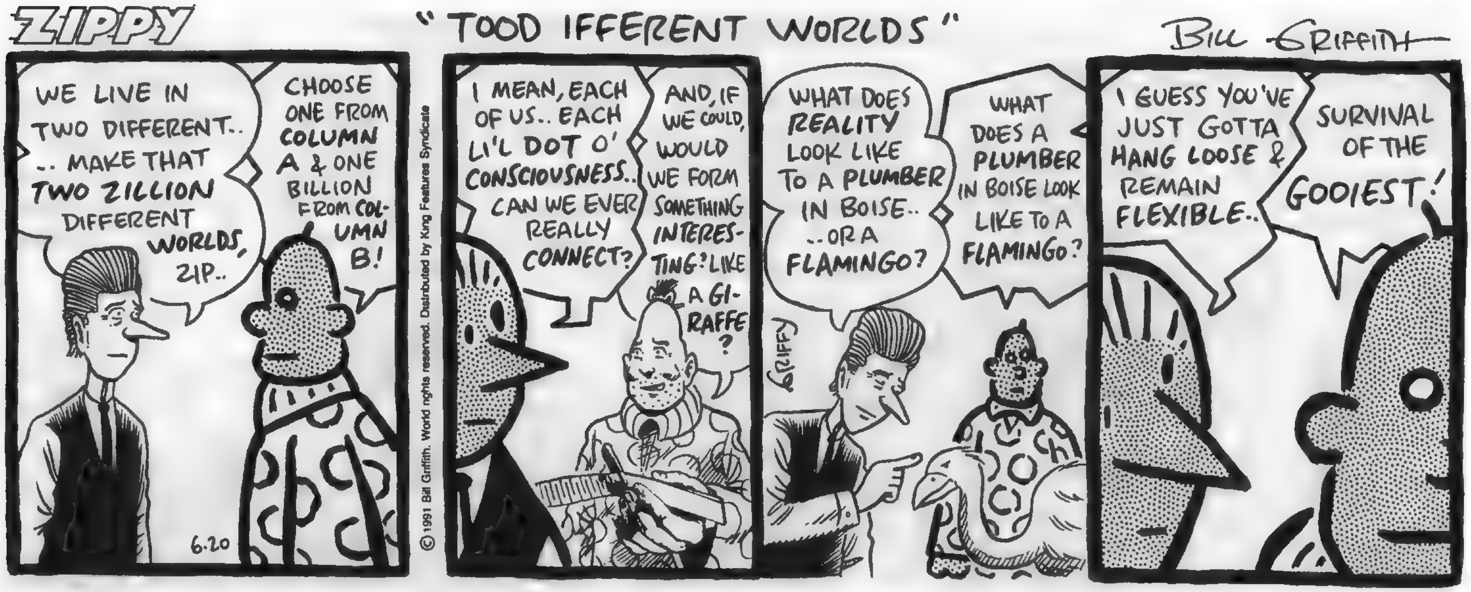
KEEP A LOW PROFILE.
SORRY, NO PICTURES!


ZIPPY
"TOOD IFFERENT WORLDS"
BILL GRIFFITH
WE LIVE IN TWO DIFFERENT.. .. MAKE THAT TWO ZILLION DIFFERENT WORLDS, ZIP..
CHOOSE ONE FROM COLUMN A & ONE BILLION FROM COLUMN B!
6-20
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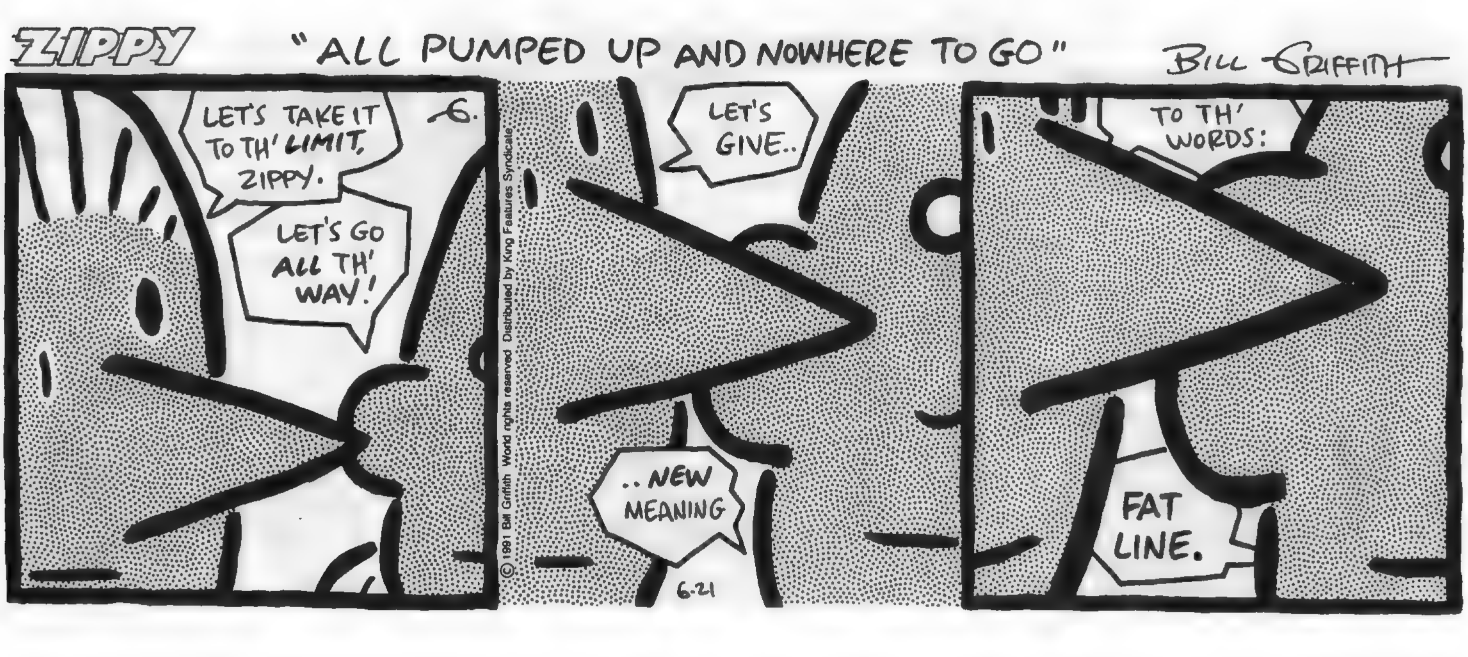
I MEAN, EACH OF US.. EACH LI'L DOT O' CONSCIOUSNESS.. CAN WE EVER REALLY CONNECT?
AND, IF WE COULD, WOULD WE FORM SOMETHING INTERESTING? LIKE A GIRAFFE?
GRIFFY
WHAT DOES REALITY LOOK LIKE TO A PLUMBER IN BOISE.. ..OR A FLAMINGO?
WHAT DOES A PLUMBER IN BOISE LOOK LIKE TO A FLAMINGO?
I GUESS YOU'VE JUST GOTTA HANG LOOSE & REMAIN FLEXIBLE..
SURVIVAL OF THE GOOIEST!


ZIPPY
"ALL PUMPED UP AND NOWHERE TO GO"
BILL GRIFFITH
LET'S TAKE IT TO TH' LIMIT, ZIPPY.
G.
LET'S GO ALL TH' WAY!
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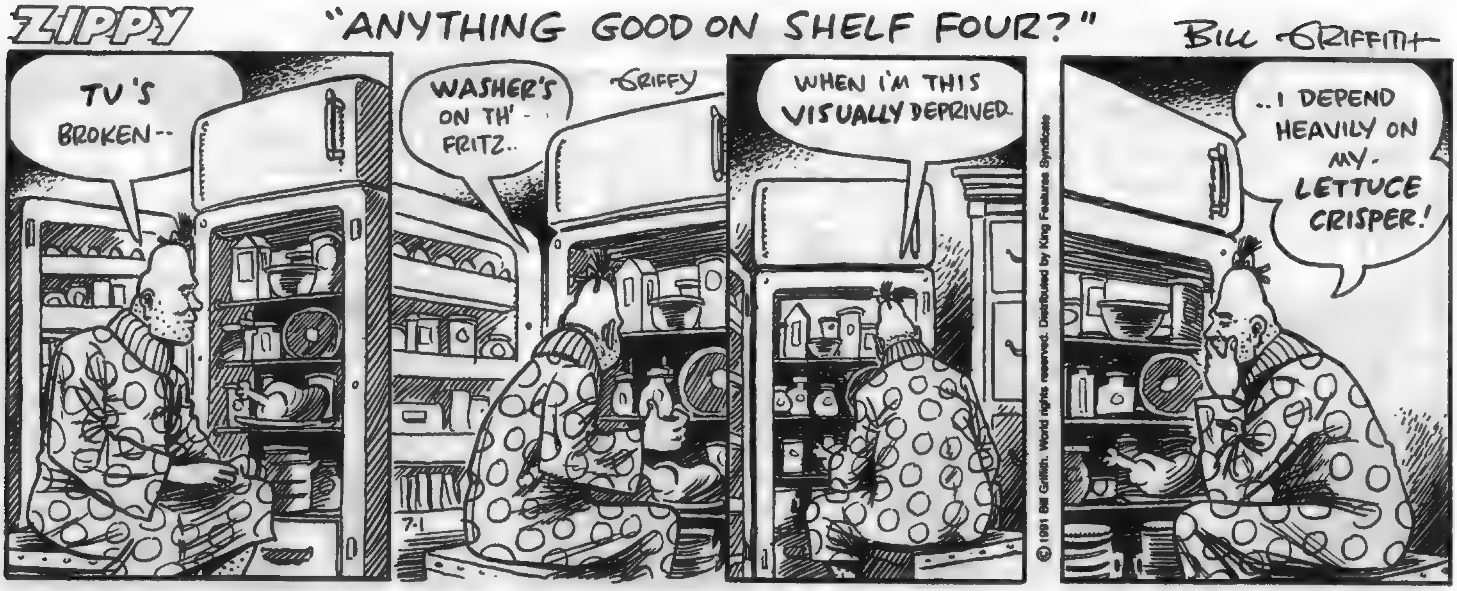
LET'S GIVE..
..NEW MEANING
6-21
TO TH' WORDS:
FAT LINE.


ZIPPY
"ANYTHING GOOD ON SHELF FOUR?"
BILL GRIFFITH
TV'S BROKEN--
WASHER'S ON TH' FRITZ..
GRIFFY
7-1
WHEN I'M THIS VISUALLY DEPRIVED..
..I DEPEND HEAVILY ON MY LETTUCE CRISPER!
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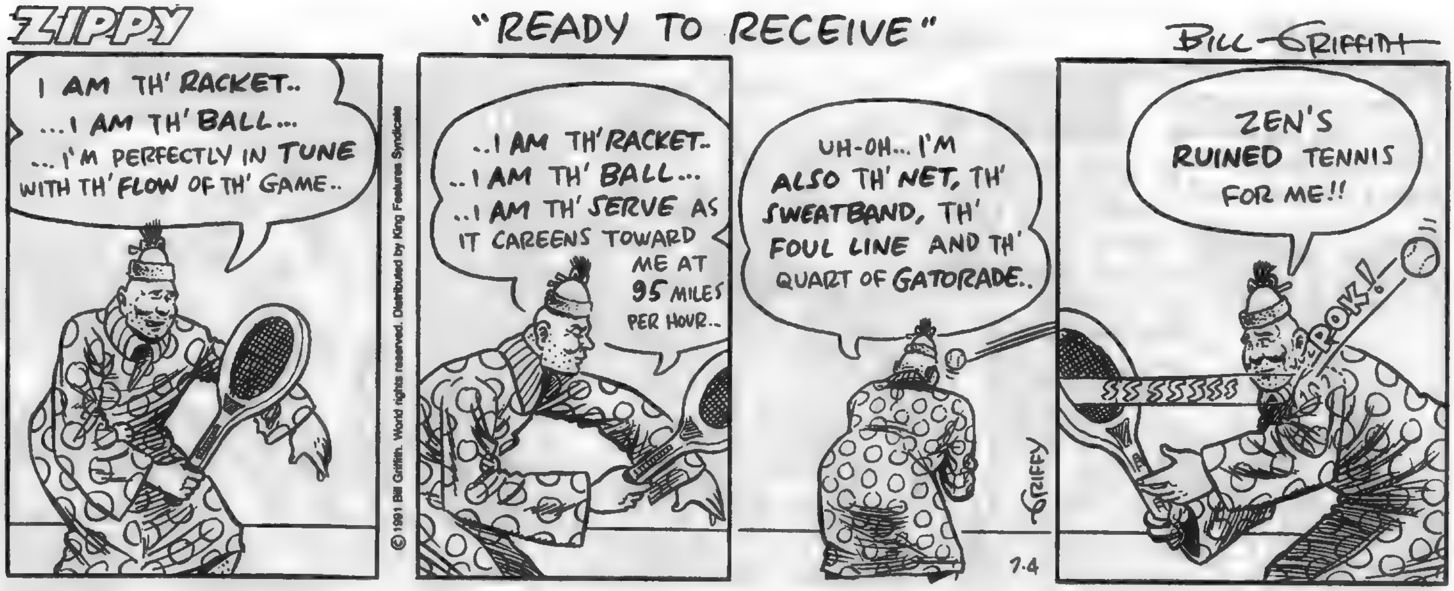
ZIPPY
"READY TO RECEIVE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I AM TH' RACKET.. ...I AM TH' BALL... ...I'M PERFECTLY IN TUNE WITH TH' FLOW OF TH' GAME..
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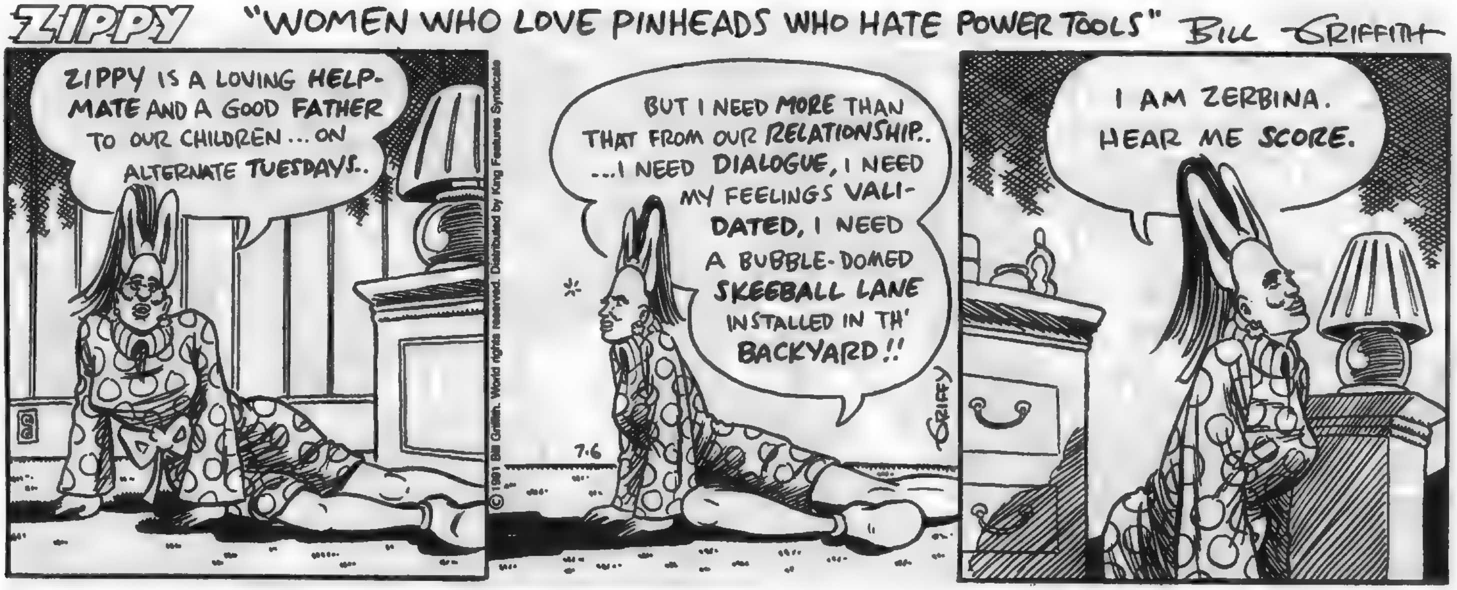
..I AM TH' RACKET.. ..I AM TH' BALL... ..I AM TH' SERVE AS IT CAREENS TOWARD ME AT 95 MILES PER HOUR..
UH-OH... I'M ALSO TH' NET, TH' SWEATBAND, TH' FOUL LINE AND TH' QUART OF GATORADE..
GRIFFY
7-4
ZEN'S RUINED TENNIS FOR ME!!
POK!
SSSSSSSS


ZIPPY
"WOMEN WHO LOVE PINHEADS WHO HATE POWER TOOLS"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY IS A LOVING HELP-MATE AND A GOOD FATHER TO OUR CHILDREN ... ON ALTERNATE TUESDAYS..
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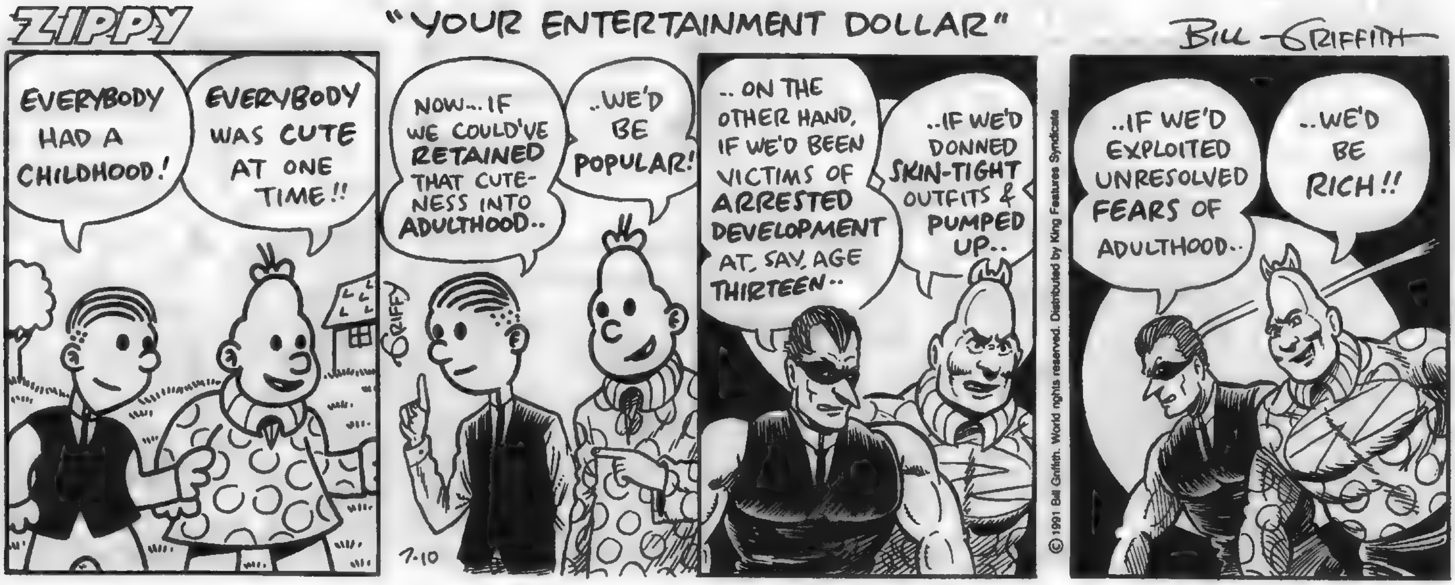
BUT I NEED MORE THAN THAT FROM OUR RELATIONSHIP.. ...I NEED DIALOGUE, I NEED MY FEELINGS VALIDATED, I NEED A BUBBLE-DOMED SKEEBALL LANE INSTALLED IN TH' BACKYARD!!
GRIFFY
7-6
I AM ZERBINA. HEAR ME SCORE.


ZIPPY
"YOUR ENTERTAINMENT DOLLAR"
BILL GRIFFITH
EVERYBODY HAD A CHILDHOOD!
EVERYBODY WAS CUTE AT ONE TIME!!
NOW... IF WE COULD'VE RETAINED THAT CUTENESS INTO ADULTHOOD..
..WE'D BE POPULAR!
GRIFFY
7-10
.. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE'D BEEN VICTIMS OF ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT AT, SAY, AGE THIRTEEN..
..IF WE'D DONNED SKIN-TIGHT OUTFITS & PUMPED UP..
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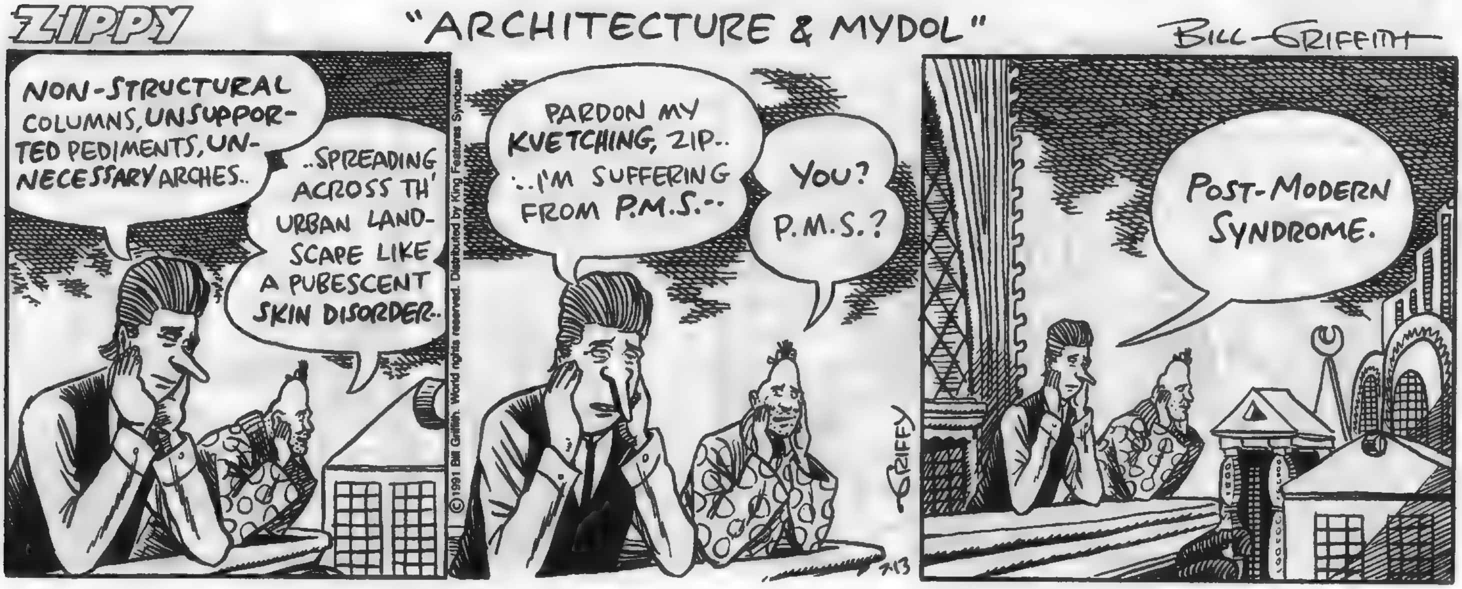
..IF WE'D EXPLOITED UNRESOLVED FEARS OF ADULTHOOD..
..WE'D BE RICH!!


ZIPPY
"ARCHITECTURE & MYDOL"
BILL GRIFFITH
NON-STRUCTURAL COLUMNS, UNSUPPORTED PEDIMENTS, UNNECESSARY ARCHES..
..SPREADING ACROSS TH' URBAN LANDSCAPE LIKE A PUBESCENT SKIN DISORDER..
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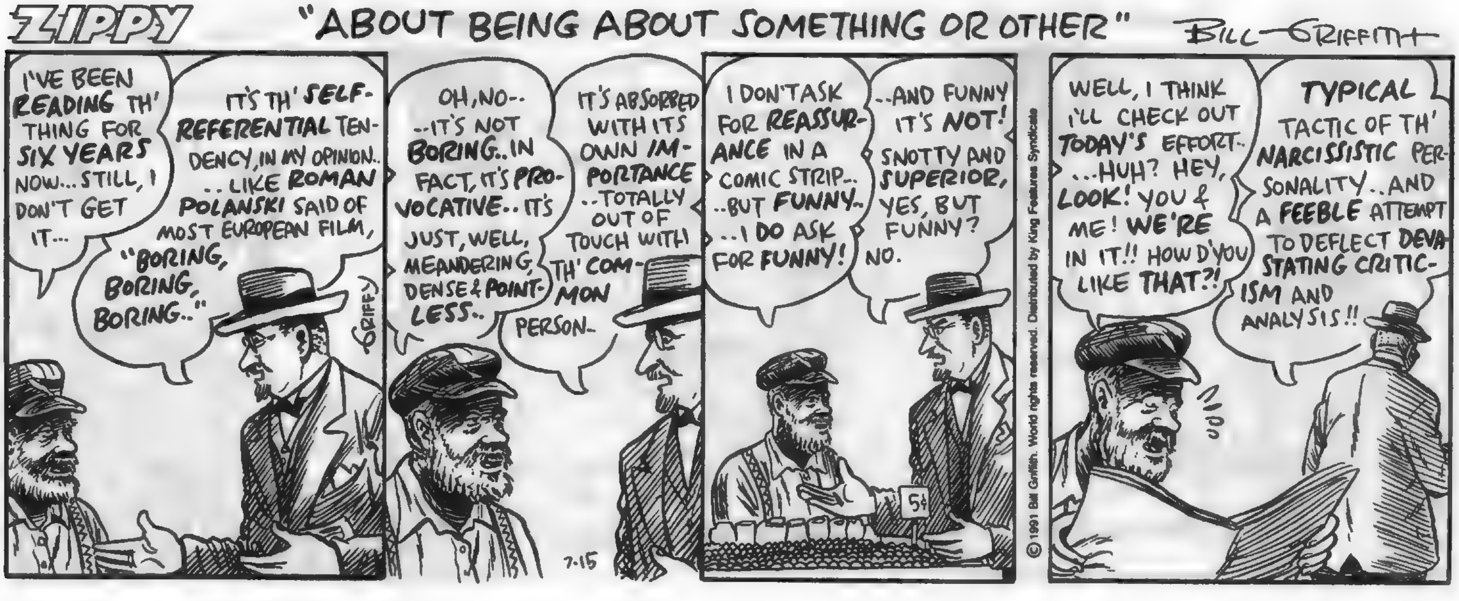
PARDON MY KVETCHING, ZIP.. ..I'M SUFFERING FROM P.M.S.--
YOU? P.M.S.?
GRIFFY
7-13
POST-MODERN SYNDROME.


ZIPPY
"ABOUT BEING ABOUT SOMETHING OR OTHER"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'VE BEEN READING TH' THING FOR SIX YEARS NOW... STILL, I DON'T GET IT...
IT'S TH' SELF-REFERENTIAL TENDENCY, IN MY OPINION.. ..LIKE ROMAN POLANSKI SAID OF MOST EUROPEAN FILM, "BORING, BORING, BORING.."
GRIFFY
OH, NO-- --IT'S NOT BORING.. IN FACT, IT'S PROVOCATIVE.. IT'S JUST, WELL, MEANDERING, DENSE & POINTLESS..
IT'S ABSORBED WITH ITS OWN IMPORTANCE ..TOTALLY OUT OF TOUCH WITH TH' COMMON PERSON..
7-15
I DON'T ASK FOR REASSURANCE IN A COMIC STRIP.. ..BUT FUNNY.. ..I DO ASK FOR FUNNY!
..AND FUNNY IT'S NOT! SNOTTY AND SUPERIOR, YES, BUT FUNNY? NO.
5¢
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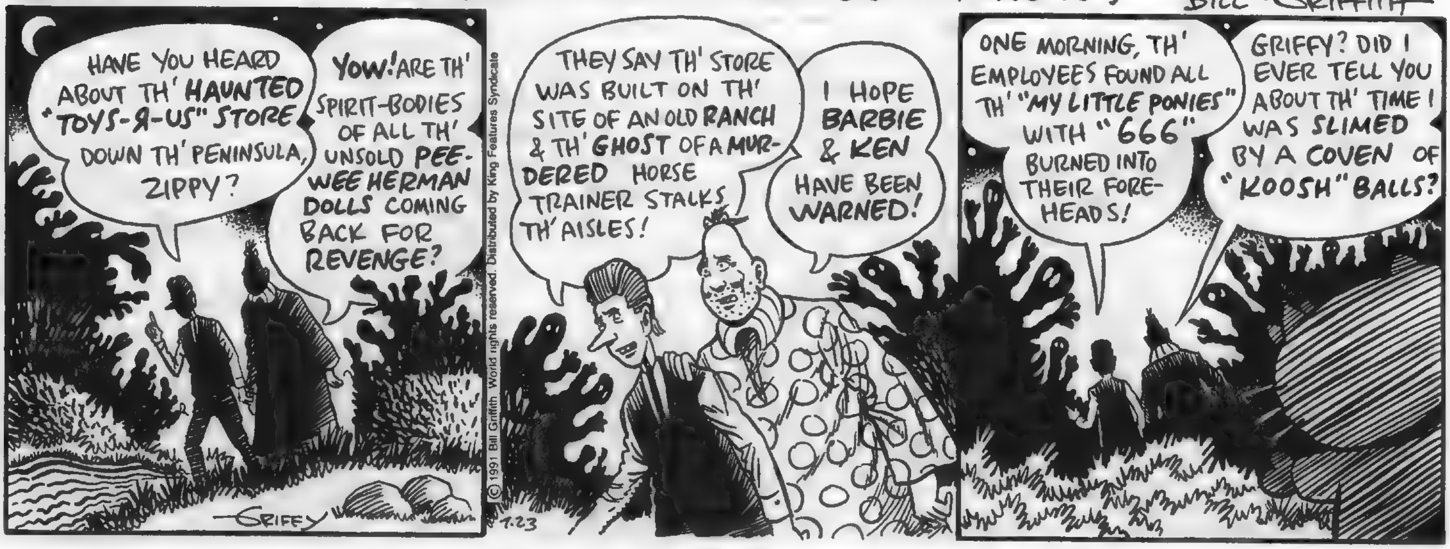
WELL, I THINK I'LL CHECK OUT TODAY'S EFFORT.. ..HUH? HEY, LOOK! YOU & ME! WE'RE IN IT!! HOW D'YOU LIKE THAT?!
TYPICAL TACTIC OF TH' NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY..AND A FEEBLE ATTEMPT TO DEFLECT DEVASTATING CRITICISM AND ANALYSIS!!

ZIPPY

"ATTACK OF THE 50 FOOT BETSY-WETSY"

BILL GRIFFITH


HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT TH' HAUNTED "TOYS-Я-US" STORE DOWN TH' PENINSULA, ZIPPY?
YOW! ARE TH' SPIRIT-BODIES OF ALL TH' UNSOLD PEE-WEE HERMAN DOLLS COMING BACK FOR REVENGE?
GRIFFY
THEY SAY TH' STORE WAS BUILT ON TH' SITE OF AN OLD RANCH & TH' GHOST OF A MURDERED HORSE TRAINER STALKS TH' AISLES!
I HOPE BARBIE & KEN HAVE BEEN WARNED!
7-23
ONE MORNING, TH' EMPLOYEES FOUND ALL TH' "MY LITTLE PONIES" WITH "666" BURNED INTO THEIR FOREHEADS!
GRIFFY? DID I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT TH' TIME I WAS SLIMED BY A COVEN OF "KOOSH" BALLS?

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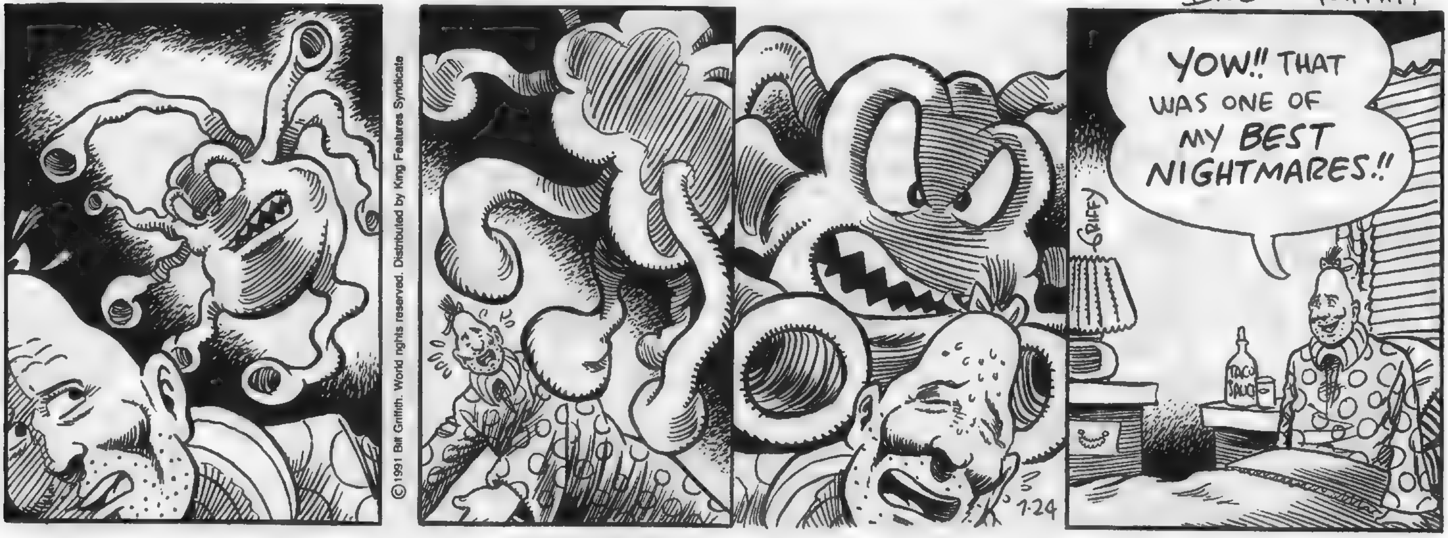
ZIPPY

"THE JUNG AND THE RESTLESS"

BILL GRIFFITH


GRIFFY
7-24
YOW!! THAT WAS ONE OF MY BEST NIGHTMARES!!
TACO SAUCE

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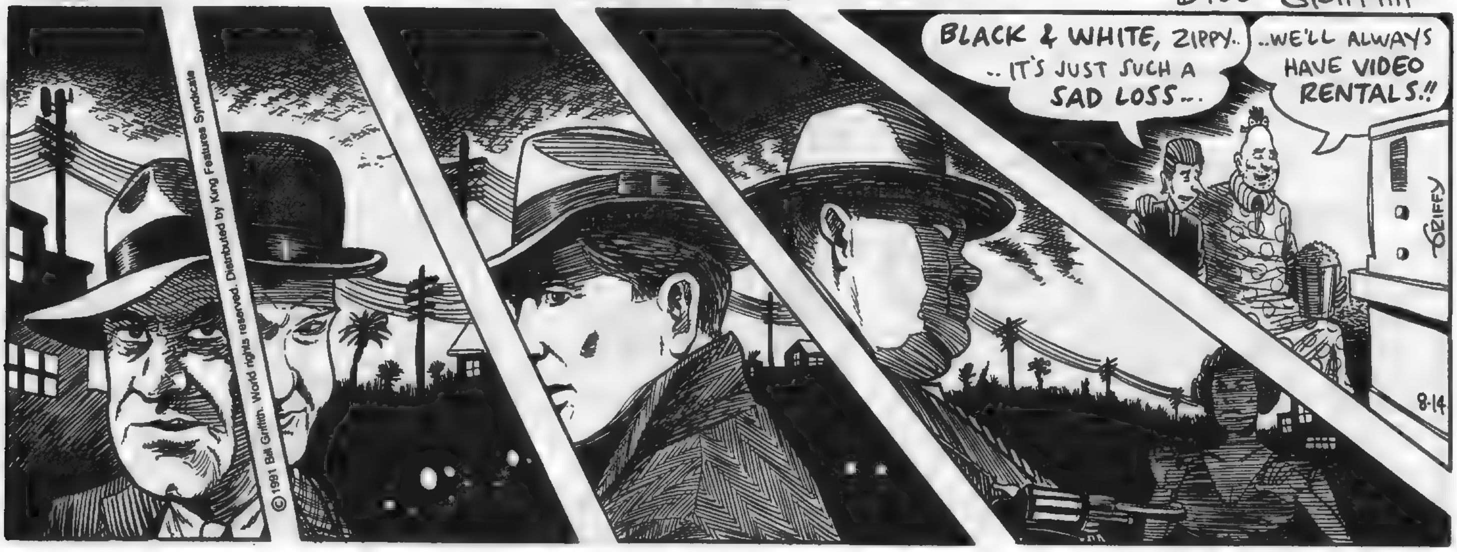
ZIPPY

"TV NOIR"

BILL GRIFFITH


BLACK & WHITE, ZIPPY.. .. IT'S JUST SUCH A SAD LOSS...
..WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE VIDEO RENTALS!!
GRIFFY
8-14

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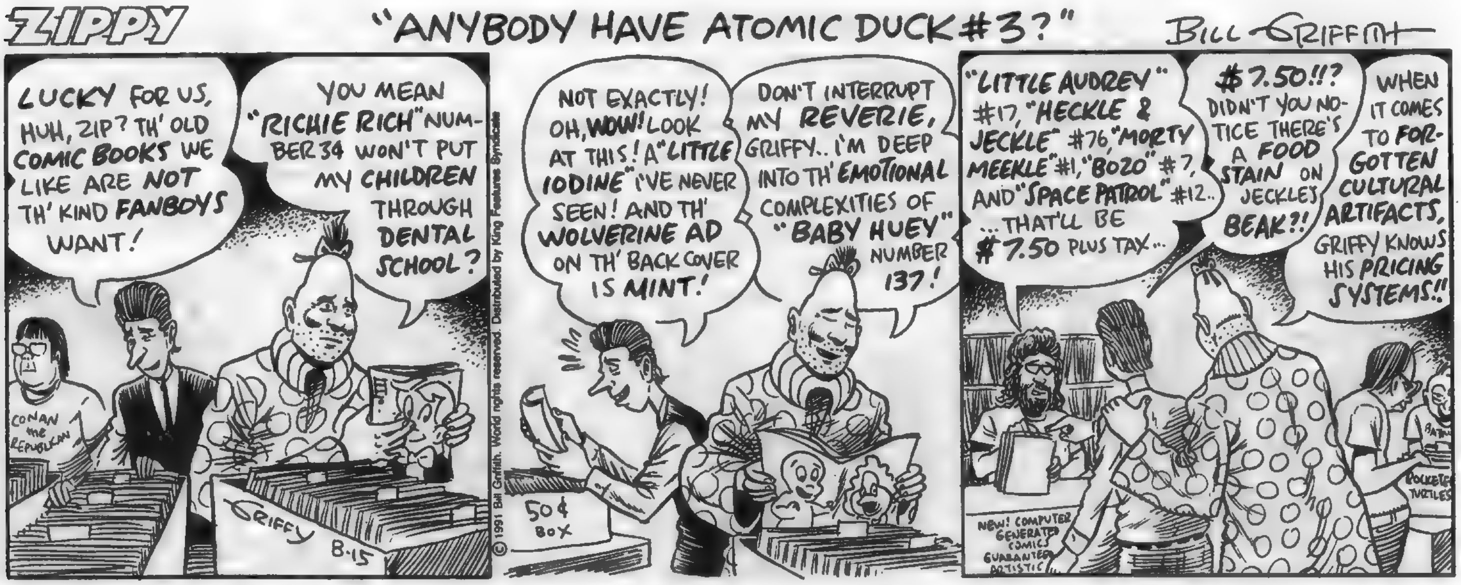
ZIPPY
"ANYBODY HAVE ATOMIC DUCK #3?"
BILL GRIFFITH
LUCKY FOR US, HUH, ZIP? TH' OLD COMIC BOOKS WE LIKE ARE NOT TH' KIND FANBOYS WANT!
YOU MEAN "RICHIE RICH" NUMBER 34 WON'T PUT MY CHILDREN THROUGH DENTAL SCHOOL?
CONAN the REPUBLICAN
GRIFFY 8-15
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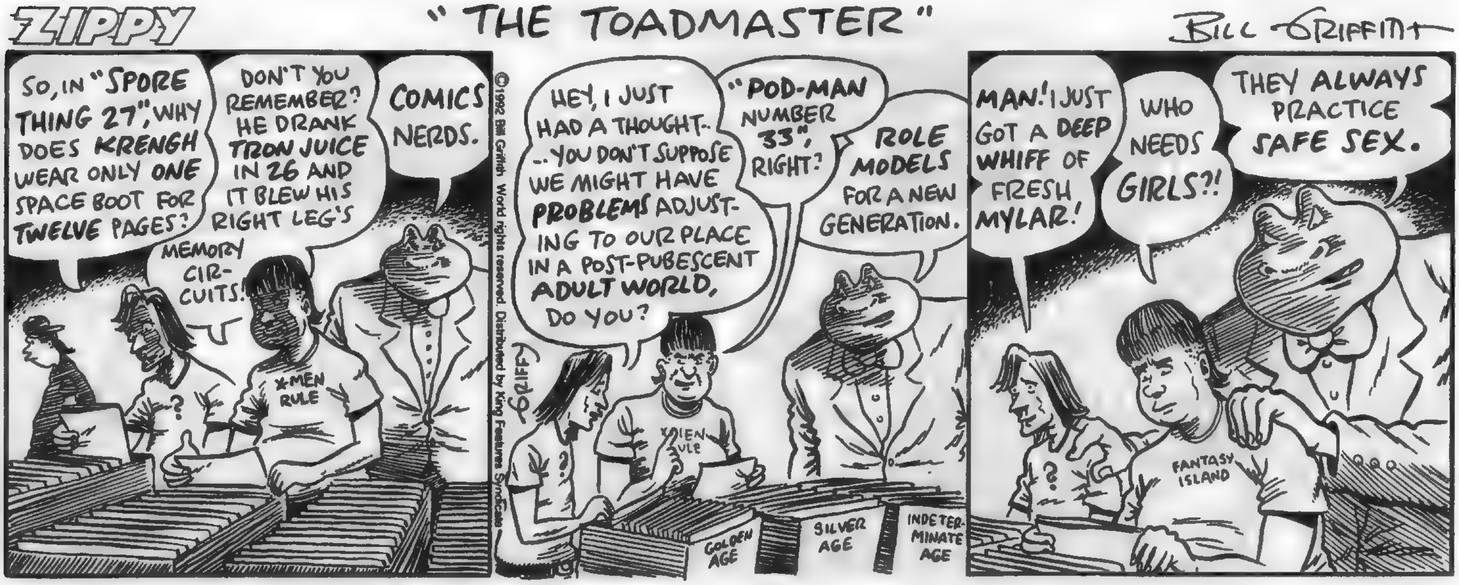
NOT EXACTLY! OH, WOW! LOOK AT THIS! A "LITTLE IODINE" I'VE NEVER SEEN! AND TH' WOLVERINE AD ON TH' BACK COVER IS MINT!
DON'T INTERRUPT MY REVERIE, GRIFFY.. I'M DEEP INTO TH' EMOTIONAL COMPLEXITIES OF "BABY HUEY" NUMBER 137!
50¢ BOX
"LITTLE AUDREY" #17, "HECKLE & JECKLE" #76, "MORTY MEEKLE" #1, "BOZO" #7, AND "SPACE PATROL" #12.. ...THAT'LL BE $7.50 PLUS TAX...
$7.50!!? DIDN'T YOU NOTICE THERE'S A FOOD STAIN ON JECKLE'S BEAK?!
WHEN IT COMES TO FORGOTTEN CULTURAL ARTIFACTS, GRIFFY KNOWS HIS PRICING SYSTEMS!!
NEW! COMPUTER GENERATED COMICS GUARANTEED ARTISTIC
BATM
POCKETED TURTLES


ZIPPY
"THE TOADMASTER"
BILL GRIFFITH
SO, IN "SPORE THING 27", WHY DOES KRENGH WEAR ONLY ONE SPACE BOOT FOR TWELVE PAGES?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? HE DRANK TRON JUICE IN 26 AND IT BLEW HIS RIGHT LEG'S MEMORY CIRCUITS!
COMICS NERDS.
X-MEN RULE
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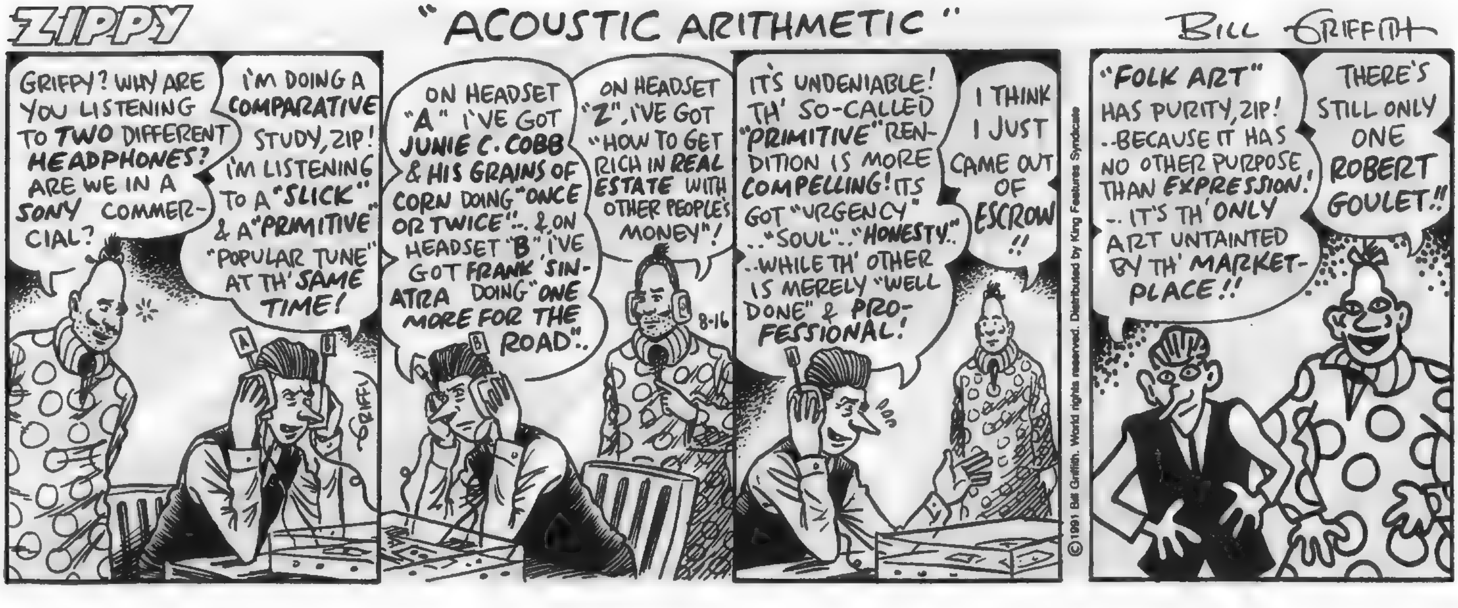
GRIFFY
HEY, I JUST HAD A THOUGHT.. ..YOU DON'T SUPPOSE WE MIGHT HAVE PROBLEMS ADJUSTING TO OUR PLACE IN A POST-PUBESCENT ADULT WORLD, DO YOU?
"POD-MAN NUMBER 33", RIGHT?
ROLE MODELS FOR A NEW GENERATION.
X-MEN RULE
GOLDEN AGE
SILVER AGE
INDETERMINATE AGE
MAN! I JUST GOT A DEEP WHIFF OF FRESH MYLAR!
WHO NEEDS GIRLS?!
THEY ALWAYS PRACTICE SAFE SEX.
FANTASY ISLAND


ZIPPY
"ACOUSTIC ARITHMETIC"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY? WHY ARE YOU LISTENING TO TWO DIFFERENT HEADPHONES? ARE WE IN A SONY COMMERCIAL?
I'M DOING A COMPARATIVE STUDY, ZIP! I'M LISTENING TO A "SLICK" & A "PRIMITIVE" "POPULAR TUNE" AT TH' SAME TIME!
A
B
GRIFFY
ON HEADSET "A" I'VE GOT JUNIE C. COBB & HIS GRAINS OF CORN DOING "ONCE OR TWICE"!.. & ON HEADSET "B" I'VE GOT FRANK SINATRA DOING "ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD"..
ON HEADSET "Z", I'VE GOT "HOW TO GET RICH IN REAL ESTATE WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY"!
8-16
IT'S UNDENIABLE! TH' SO-CALLED "PRIMITIVE" RENDITION IS MORE COMPELLING! ITS GOT "URGENCY".. "SOUL".. "HONESTY".. ..WHILE TH' OTHER IS MERELY "WELL DONE" & PROFESSIONAL!
I THINK I JUST CAME OUT OF ESCROW!!
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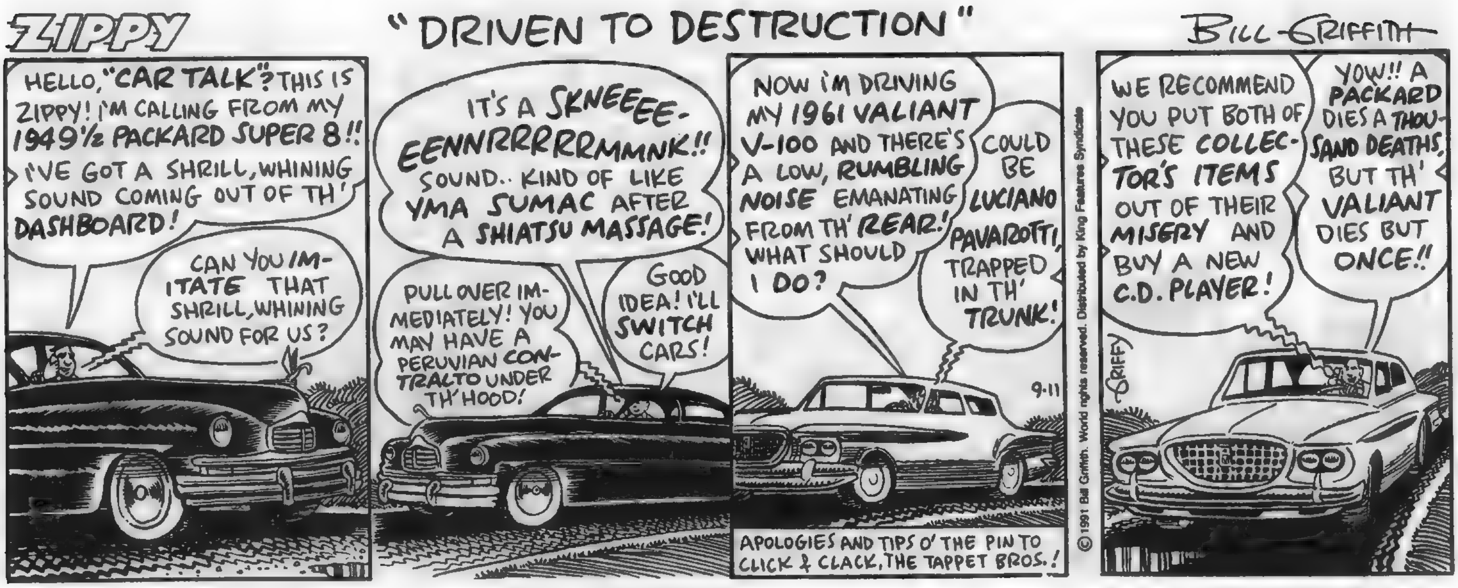
"FOLK ART" HAS PURITY, ZIP! ..BECAUSE IT HAS NO OTHER PURPOSE THAN EXPRESSION! .. IT'S TH' ONLY ART UNTAINTED BY TH' MARKETPLACE!!
THERE'S STILL ONLY ONE ROBERT GOULET!!


ZIPPY
"DRIVEN TO DESTRUCTION"
BILL GRIFFITH
HELLO, "CAR TALK"? THIS IS ZIPPY! I'M CALLING FROM MY 1949½ PACKARD SUPER 8!! I'VE GOT A SHRILL, WHINING SOUND COMING OUT OF TH' DASHBOARD!
CAN YOU IMITATE THAT SHRILL, WHINING SOUND FOR US?
IT'S A SKNEEEEE-EENNRRRRRRMMNK!! SOUND.. KIND OF LIKE YMA SUMAC AFTER A SHIATSU MASSAGE!
PULL OVER IMMEDIATELY! YOU MAY HAVE A PERUVIAN CONTRALTO UNDER TH' HOOD!
GOOD IDEA! I'LL SWITCH CARS!
NOW I'M DRIVING MY 1961 VALIANT V-100 AND THERE'S A LOW, RUMBLING NOISE EMANATING FROM TH' REAR! WHAT SHOULD I DO?
COULD BE LUCIANO PAVAROTTI, TRAPPED IN TH' TRUNK!
9-11
APOLOGIES AND TIPS O' THE PIN TO CLICK & CLACK, THE TAPPET BROS.!
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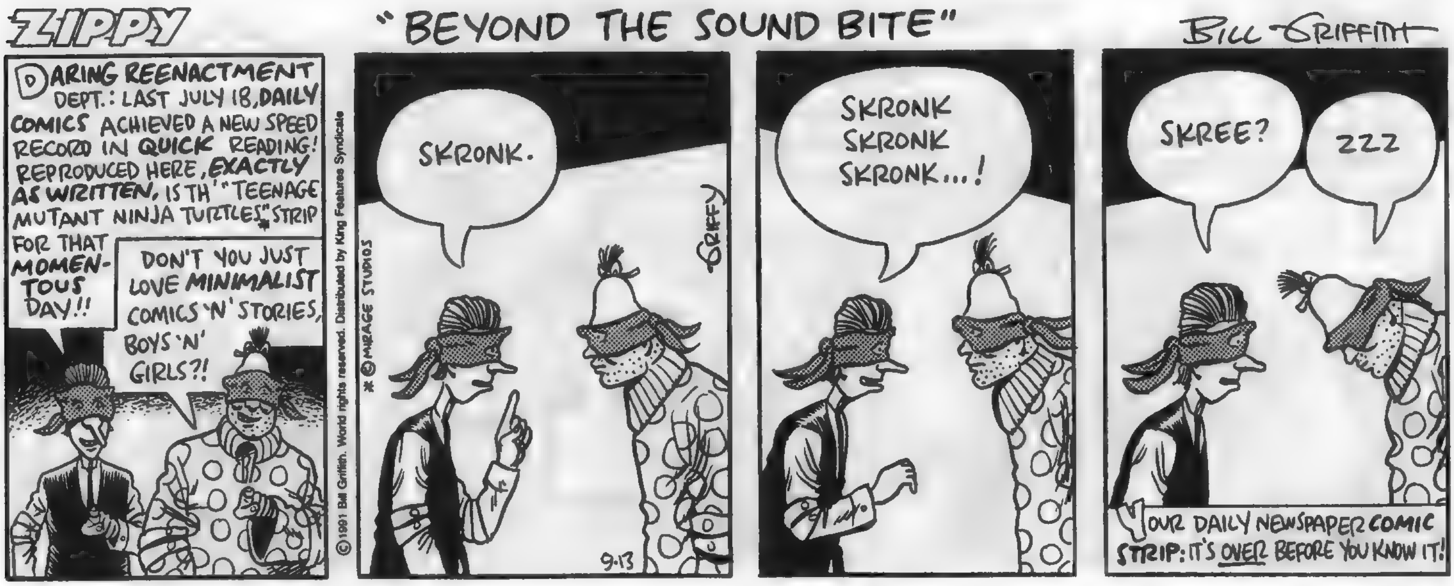
GRIFFY
WE RECOMMEND YOU PUT BOTH OF THESE COLLECTOR'S ITEMS OUT OF THEIR MISERY AND BUY A NEW C.D. PLAYER!
YOW!! A PACKARD DIES A THOUSAND DEATHS, BUT TH' VALIANT DIES BUT ONCE!!


ZIPPY
"BEYOND THE SOUND BITE"
BILL GRIFFITH
DARING REENACTMENT DEPT.: LAST JULY 18, DAILY COMICS ACHIEVED A NEW SPEED RECORD IN QUICK READING! REPRODUCED HERE, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN, IS TH' "TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES"* STRIP FOR THAT MOMENTOUS DAY!!
DON'T YOU JUST LOVE MINIMALIST COMICS 'N' STORIES, BOYS 'N' GIRLS?!
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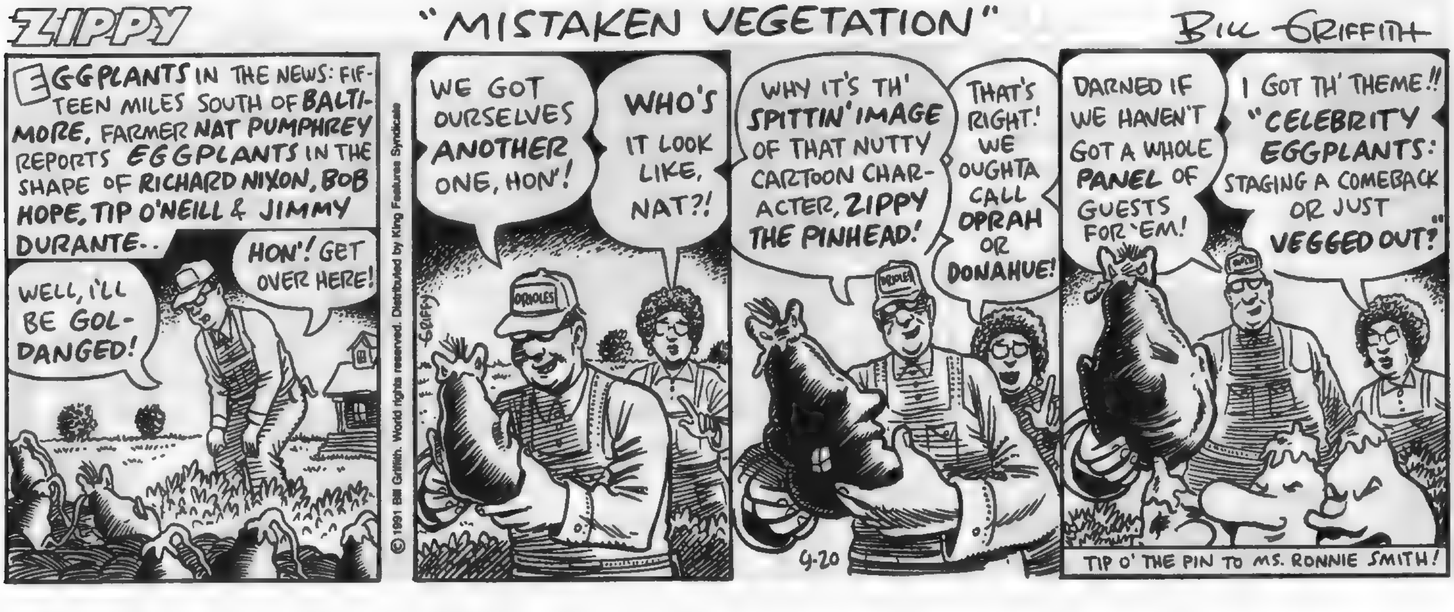
* © MIRAGE STUDIOS
SKRONK.
GRIFFY
9-13
SKRONK SKRONK SKRONK...!
SKREE?
ZZZ
YOUR DAILY NEWSPAPER COMIC STRIP: IT'S OVER BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!


ZIPPY
"MISTAKEN VEGETATION"
BILL GRIFFITH
EGGPLANTS IN THE NEWS: FIFTEEN MILES SOUTH OF BALTIMORE, FARMER NAT PUMPHREY REPORTS EGGPLANTS IN THE SHAPE OF RICHARD NIXON, BOB HOPE, TIP O'NEILL & JIMMY DURANTE..
WELL, I'LL BE GOL-DANGED!
HON'! GET OVER HERE!
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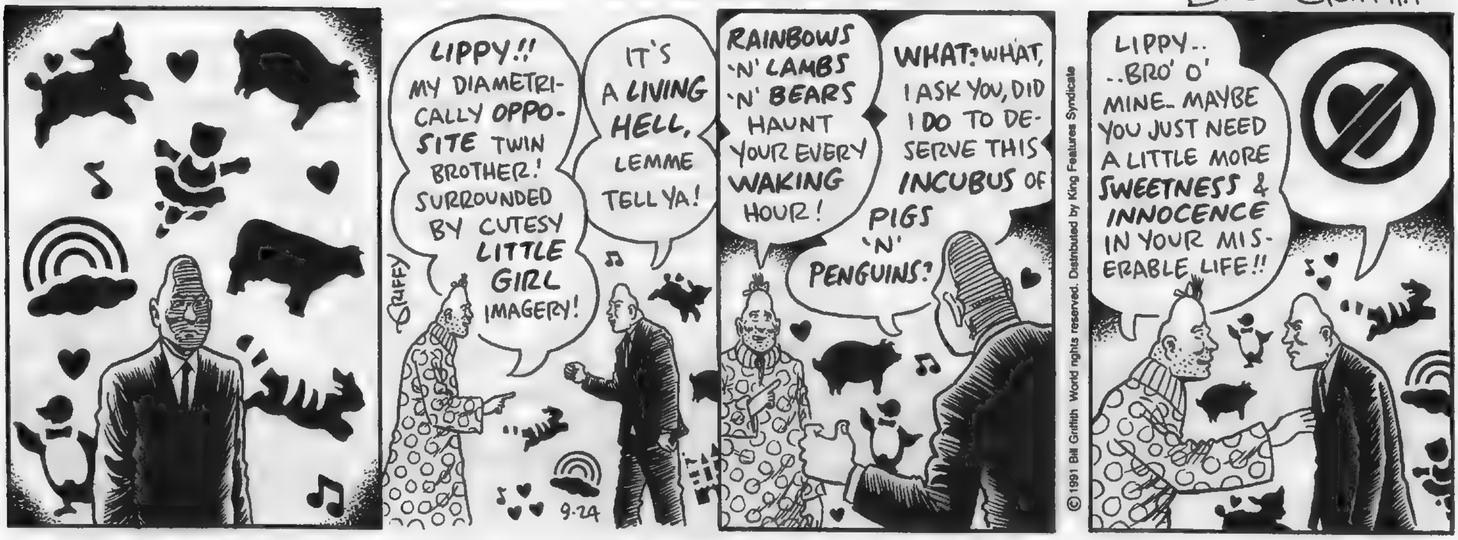
WE GOT OURSELVES ANOTHER ONE, HON'!
WHO'S IT LOOK LIKE, NAT?!
ORIOLES
GRIFFY
WHY IT'S TH' SPITTIN' IMAGE OF THAT NUTTY CARTOON CHARACTER, ZIPPY THE PINHEAD!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE OUGHTA CALL OPRAH OR DONAHUE!
ORIOLES
9-20
DARNED IF WE HAVEN'T GOT A WHOLE PANEL OF GUESTS FOR 'EM!
I GOT TH' THEME!! "CELEBRITY EGGPLANTS: STAGING A COMEBACK OR JUST VEGGED OUT?"
TIP O' THE PIN TO MS. RONNIE SMITH!

ZIPPY "OUTSIDE THE MAINSTREAM" BILL GRIFFITH


LIPPY!! MY DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE TWIN BROTHER! SURROUNDED BY CUTESY LITTLE GIRL IMAGERY!
IT'S A LIVING HELL, LEMME TELL YA!
GRIFFY
9·24
RAINBOWS 'N' LAMBS 'N' BEARS HAUNT YOUR EVERY WAKING HOUR!
WHAT? WHAT, I ASK YOU, DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS INCUBUS OF PIGS 'N' PENGUINS?
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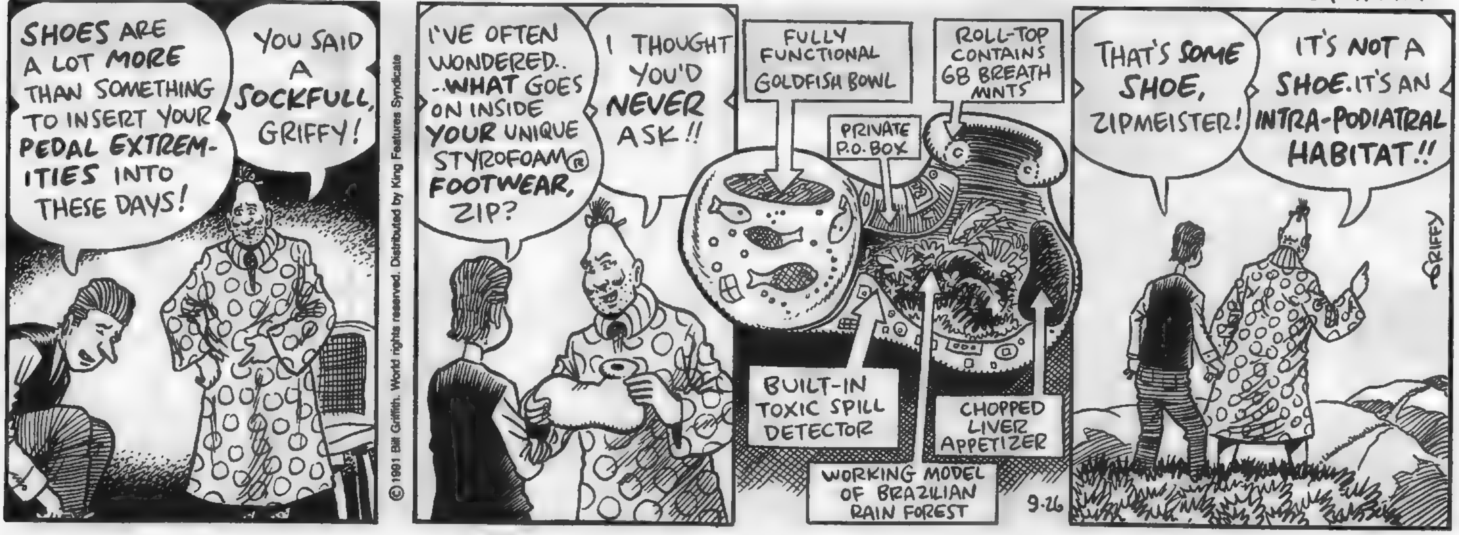
LIPPY.. ..BRO' O' MINE.. MAYBE YOU JUST NEED A LITTLE MORE SWEETNESS & INNOCENCE IN YOUR MISERABLE LIFE!!

ZIPPY "THE SHOEISH EXPERIENCE" BILL GRIFFITH


SHOES ARE A LOT MORE THAN SOMETHING TO INSERT YOUR PEDAL EXTREMITIES INTO THESE DAYS!
YOU SAID A SOCKFULL, GRIFFY!
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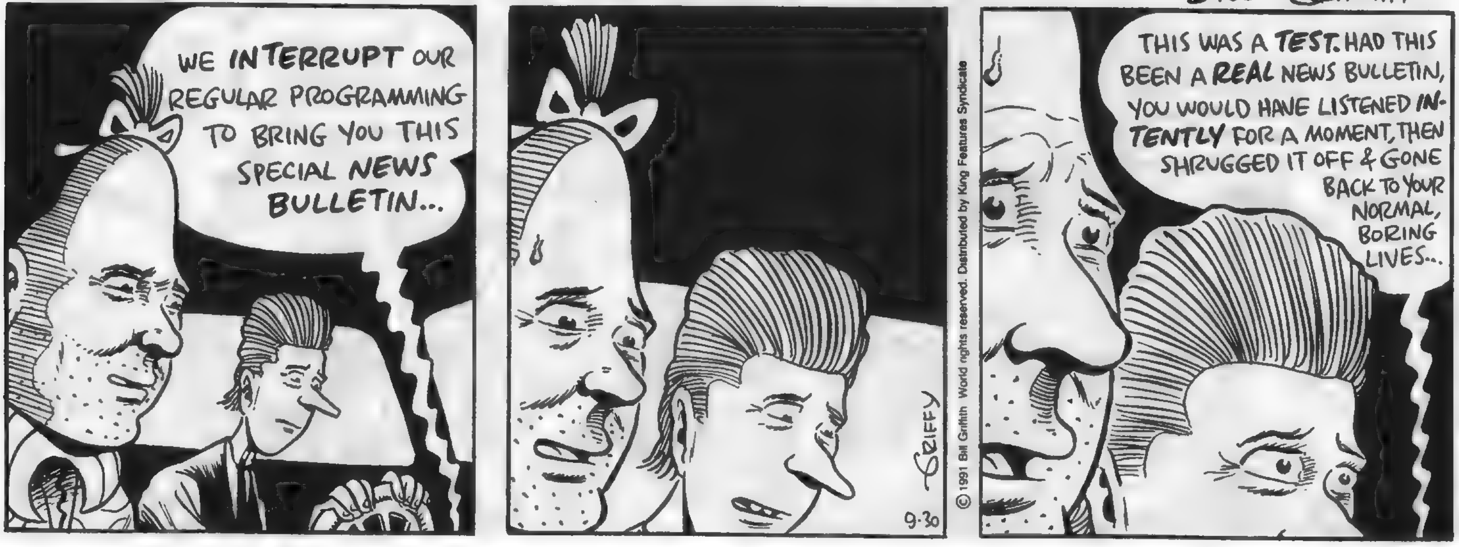
I'VE OFTEN WONDERED.. ..WHAT GOES ON INSIDE YOUR UNIQUE STYROFOAM® FOOTWEAR, ZIP?
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK!!
FULLY FUNCTIONAL GOLDFISH BOWL
ROLL-TOP CONTAINS 68 BREATH MINTS
PRIVATE P.O. BOX
BUILT-IN TOXIC SPILL DETECTOR
CHOPPED LIVER APPETIZER
WORKING MODEL OF BRAZILIAN RAIN FOREST
9·26
THAT'S SOME SHOE, ZIPMEISTER!
IT'S NOT A SHOE. IT'S AN INTRA-PODIATRAL HABITAT!!
GRIFFY

ZIPPY "...AND NOW BACK TO THE GAME..." BILL GRIFFITH


WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULAR PROGRAMMING TO BRING YOU THIS SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN...
GRIFFY
9·30
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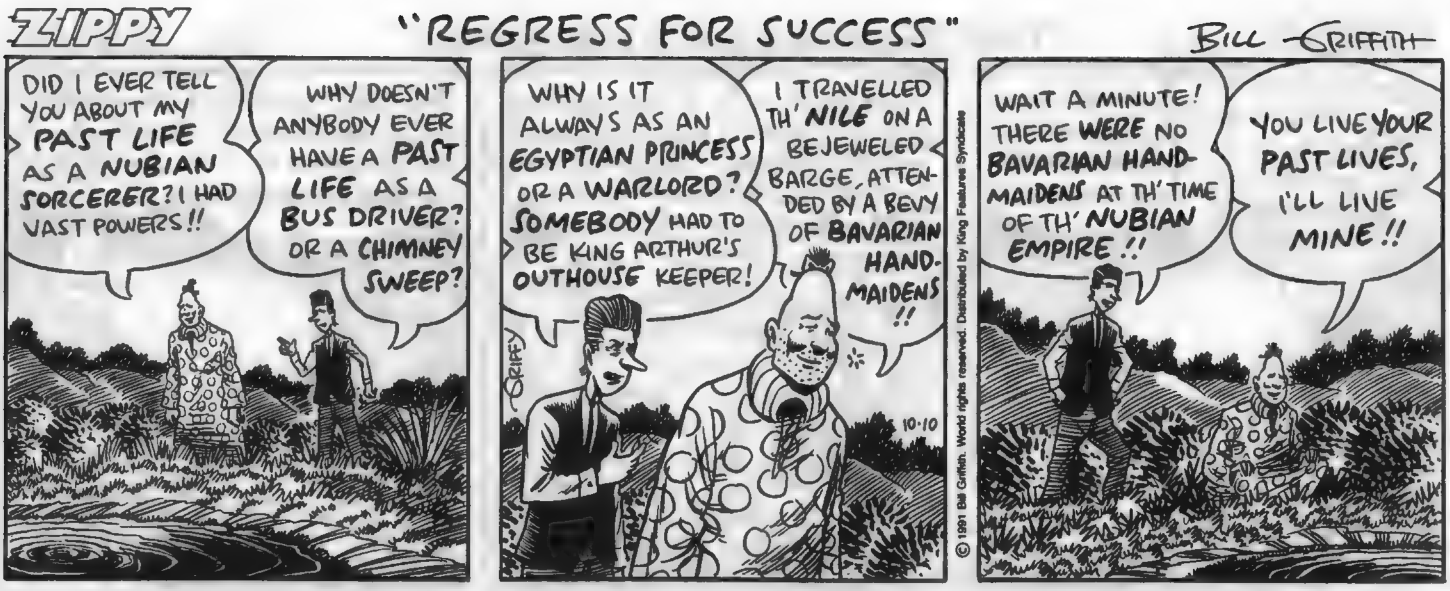
THIS WAS A TEST. HAD THIS BEEN A REAL NEWS BULLETIN, YOU WOULD HAVE LISTENED INTENTLY FOR A MOMENT, THEN SHRUGGED IT OFF & GONE BACK TO YOUR NORMAL, BORING LIVES...


ZIPPY
"REGRESS FOR SUCCESS"
BILL GRIFFITH
DID I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT MY PAST LIFE AS A NUBIAN SORCERER? I HAD VAST POWERS!!
WHY DOESN'T ANYBODY EVER HAVE A PAST LIFE AS A BUS DRIVER? OR A CHIMNEY SWEEP?
WHY IS IT ALWAYS AS AN EGYPTIAN PRINCESS OR A WARLORD? SOMEBODY HAD TO BE KING ARTHUR'S OUTHOUSE KEEPER!
I TRAVELLED TH' NILE ON A BEJEWELED BARGE, ATTENDED BY A BEVY OF BAVARIAN HAND-MAIDENS!!
GRIFFY
10-10
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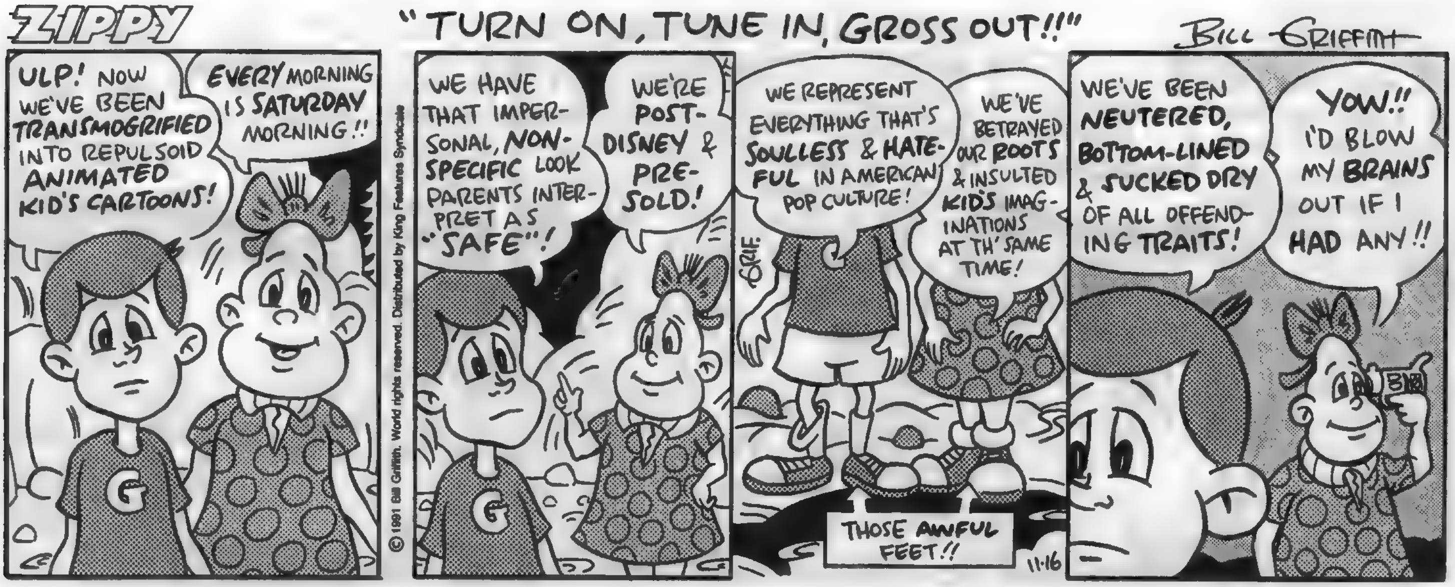
WAIT A MINUTE! THERE WERE NO BAVARIAN HAND-MAIDENS AT TH' TIME OF TH' NUBIAN EMPIRE!!
YOU LIVE YOUR PAST LIVES, I'LL LIVE MINE!!


ZIPPY
"TURN ON, TUNE IN, GROSS OUT!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
ULP! NOW WE'VE BEEN TRANSMOGRIFIED INTO REPULSOID ANIMATED KID'S CARTOONS!
EVERY MORNING IS SATURDAY MORNING!!
G
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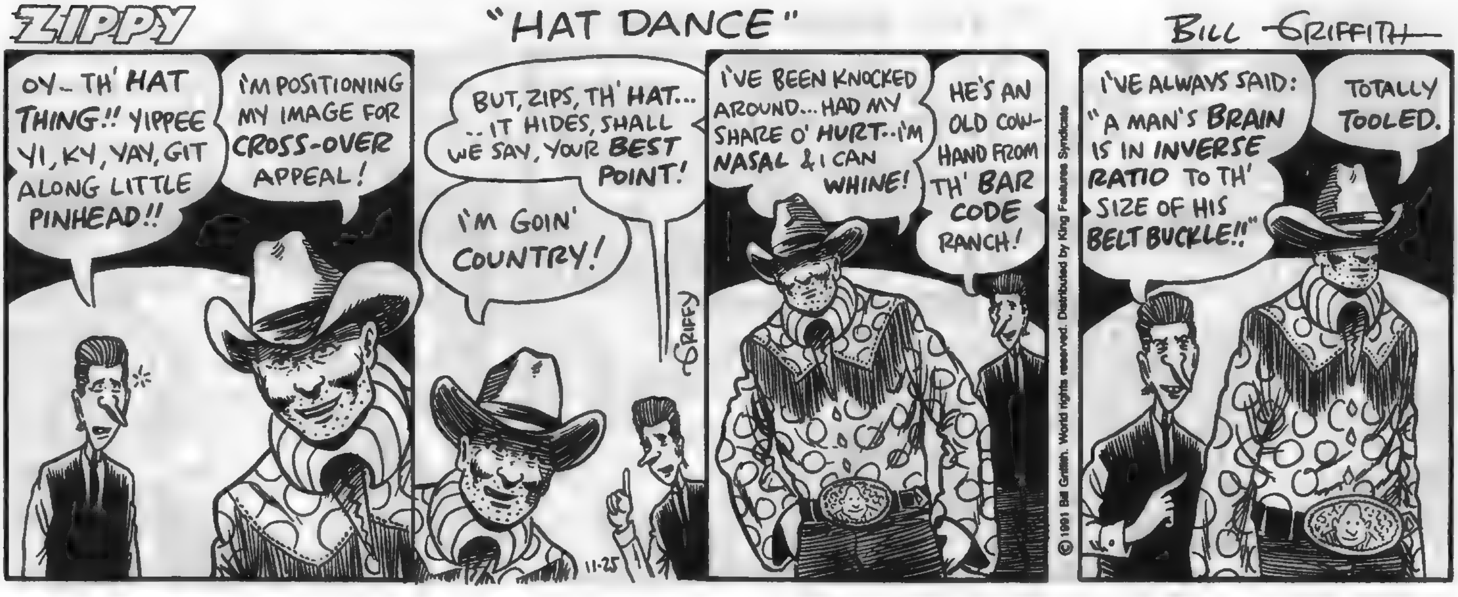
WE HAVE THAT IMPERSONAL, NON-SPECIFIC LOOK PARENTS INTERPRET AS "SAFE"!
WE'RE POST-DISNEY & PRE-SOLD!
WE REPRESENT EVERYTHING THAT'S SOULLESS & HATEFUL IN AMERICAN POP CULTURE!
WE'VE BETRAYED OUR ROOTS & INSULTED KID'S IMAGINATIONS AT TH' SAME TIME!
GRIFF
THOSE AWFUL FEET!!
11-16
WE'VE BEEN NEUTERED, BOTTOM-LINED & SUCKED DRY OF ALL OFFENDING TRAITS!
YOW!! I'D BLOW MY BRAINS OUT IF I HAD ANY!!


ZIPPY
"HAT DANCE"
BILL GRIFFITH
OY.. TH' HAT THING!! YIPPEE YI, KY, YAY, GIT ALONG LITTLE PINHEAD!!
I'M POSITIONING MY IMAGE FOR CROSS-OVER APPEAL!
BUT, ZIPS, TH' HAT... .. IT HIDES, SHALL WE SAY, YOUR BEST POINT!
I'M GOIN' COUNTRY!
GRIFFY
11-25
I'VE BEEN KNOCKED AROUND... HAD MY SHARE O' HURT.. I'M NASAL & I CAN WHINE!
HE'S AN OLD COW-HAND FROM TH' BAR CODE RANCH!
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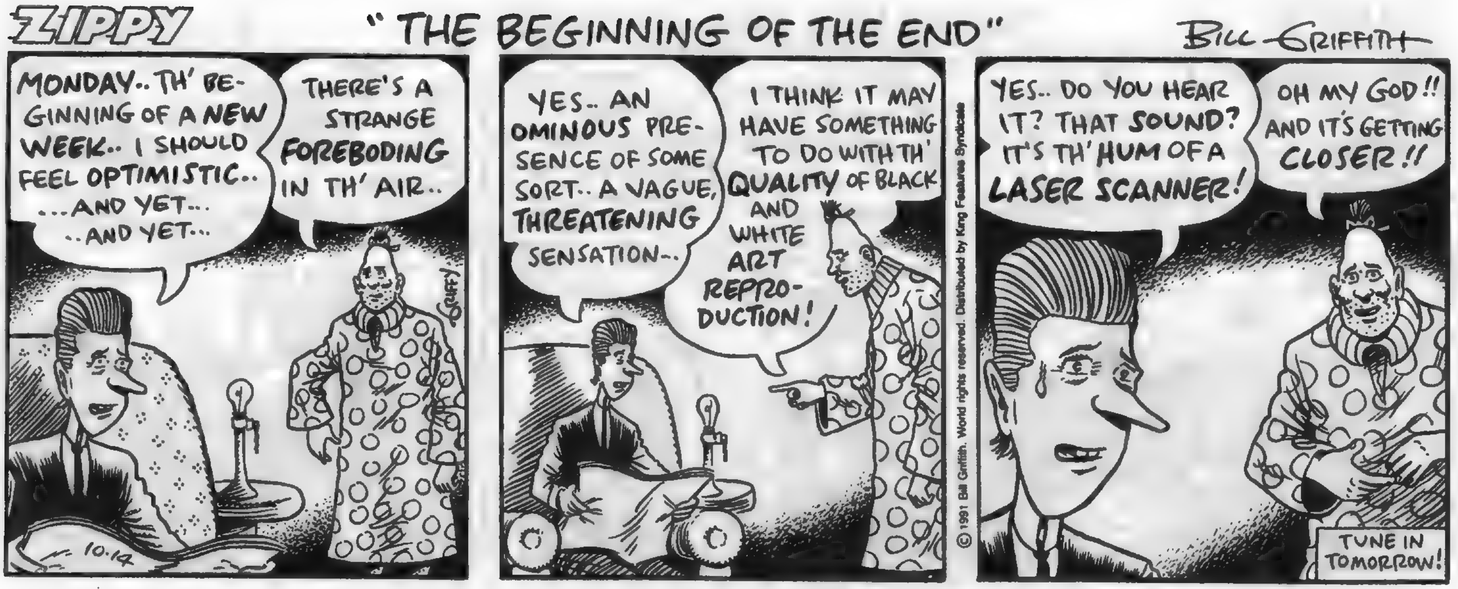
I'VE ALWAYS SAID: "A MAN'S BRAIN IS IN INVERSE RATIO TO TH' SIZE OF HIS BELT BUCKLE!"
TOTALLY TOOLED.


ZIPPY
"THE BEGINNING OF THE END"
BILL GRIFFITH
MONDAY.. TH' BEGINNING OF A NEW WEEK.. I SHOULD FEEL OPTIMISTIC.. ...AND YET... ..AND YET...
THERE'S A STRANGE FOREBODING IN TH' AIR..
GRIFFY
10.14
YES.. AN OMINOUS PRESENCE OF SOME SORT.. A VAGUE, THREATENING SENSATION..
I THINK IT MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH TH' QUALITY OF BLACK AND WHITE ART REPRODUCTION!
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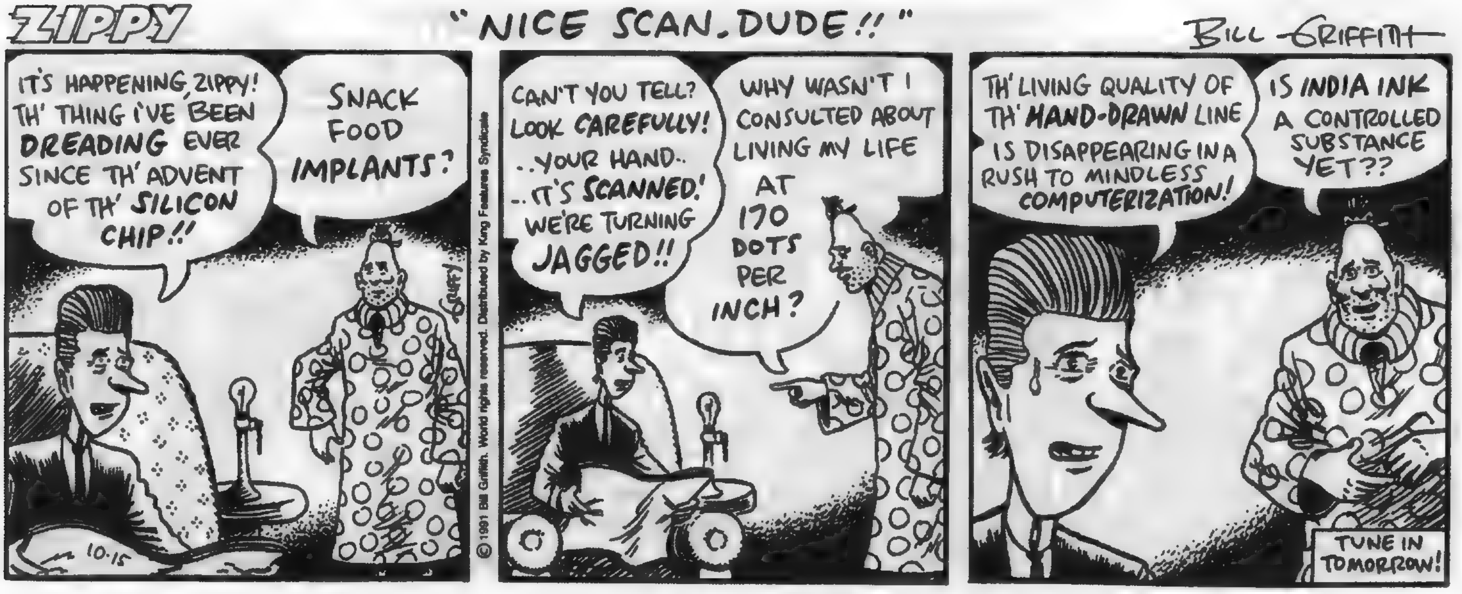
YES.. DO YOU HEAR IT? THAT SOUND? IT'S TH' HUM OF A LASER SCANNER!
OH MY GOD!! AND IT'S GETTING CLOSER!!
TUNE IN TOMORROW!


ZIPPY
"NICE SCAN, DUDE!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
IT'S HAPPENING, ZIPPY! TH' THING I'VE BEEN DREADING EVER SINCE TH' ADVENT OF TH' SILICON CHIP!!
SNACK FOOD IMPLANTS?
GRIFFY
10.15
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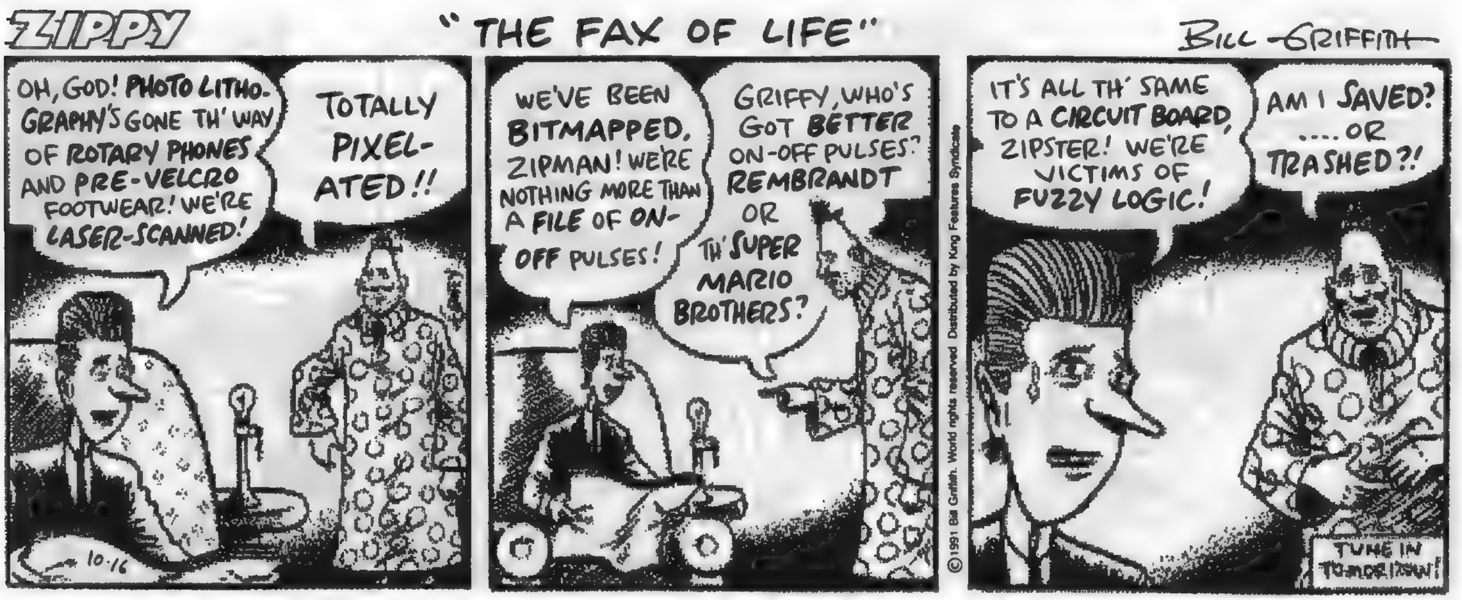
CAN'T YOU TELL? LOOK CAREFULLY! ..YOUR HAND.. ..IT'S SCANNED! WE'RE TURNING JAGGED!!
WHY WASN'T I CONSULTED ABOUT LIVING MY LIFE AT 170 DOTS PER INCH?
TH' LIVING QUALITY OF TH' HAND-DRAWN LINE IS DISAPPEARING IN A RUSH TO MINDLESS COMPUTERIZATION!
IS INDIA INK A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE YET??
TUNE IN TOMORROW!


ZIPPY
"THE FAX OF LIFE"
BILL GRIFFITH
OH, GOD! PHOTO LITHOGRAPHY'S GONE TH' WAY OF ROTARY PHONES AND PRE-VELCRO FOOTWEAR! WE'RE LASER-SCANNED!
TOTALLY PIXELATED!!
GRIFFY
10.16
WE'VE BEEN BITMAPPED, ZIPMAN! WE'RE NOTHING MORE THAN A FILE OF ON-OFF PULSES!
GRIFFY, WHO'S GOT BETTER ON-OFF PULSES? REMBRANDT OR TH' SUPER MARIO BROTHERS?
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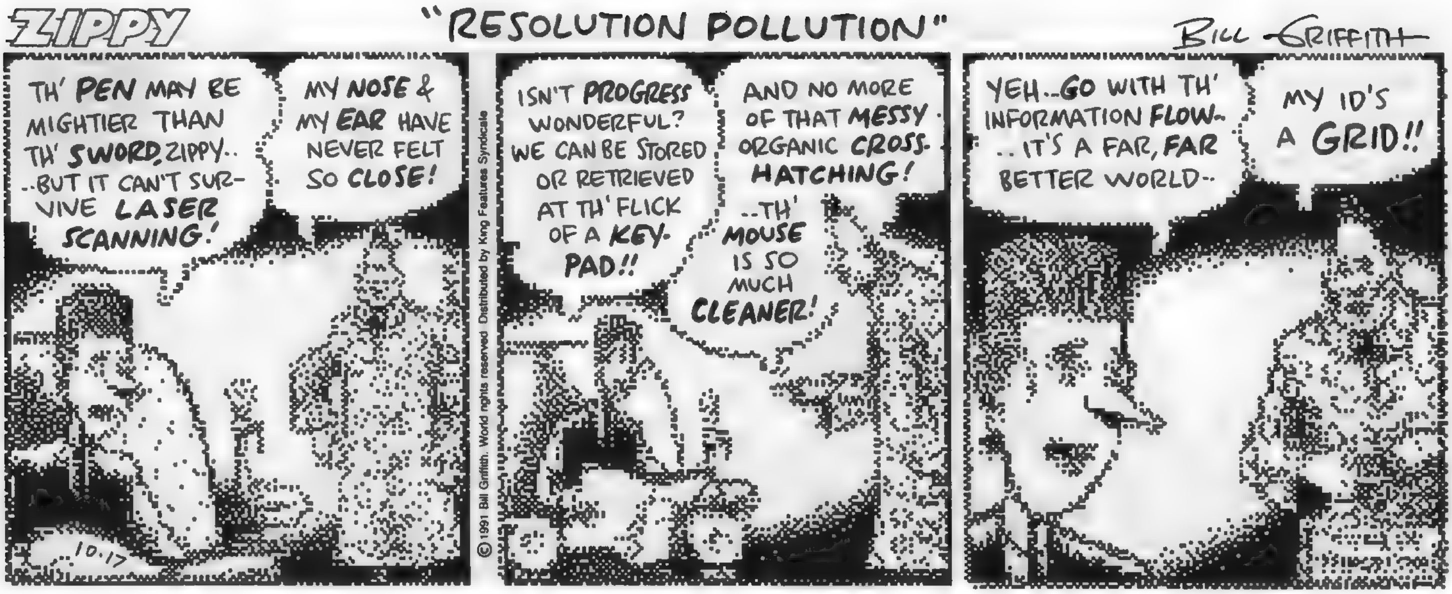
IT'S ALL TH' SAME TO A CIRCUIT BOARD, ZIPSTER! WE'RE VICTIMS OF FUZZY LOGIC!
AM I SAVED? ....OR TRASHED?!
TUNE IN TOMORROW!


ZIPPY
"RESOLUTION POLLUTION"
BILL GRIFFITH
TH' PEN MAY BE MIGHTIER THAN TH' SWORD, ZIPPY.. ..BUT IT CAN'T SURVIVE LASER SCANNING!
MY NOSE & MY EAR HAVE NEVER FELT SO CLOSE!
ISN'T PROGRESS WONDERFUL? WE CAN BE STORED OR RETRIEVED AT TH' FLICK OF A KEY-PAD!!
AND NO MORE OF THAT MESSY ORGANIC CROSS-HATCHING! ..TH' MOUSE IS SO MUCH CLEANER!
YEH..GO WITH TH' INFORMATION FLOW.. ..IT'S A FAR, FAR BETTER WORLD..
MY ID'S A GRID!!
10.17
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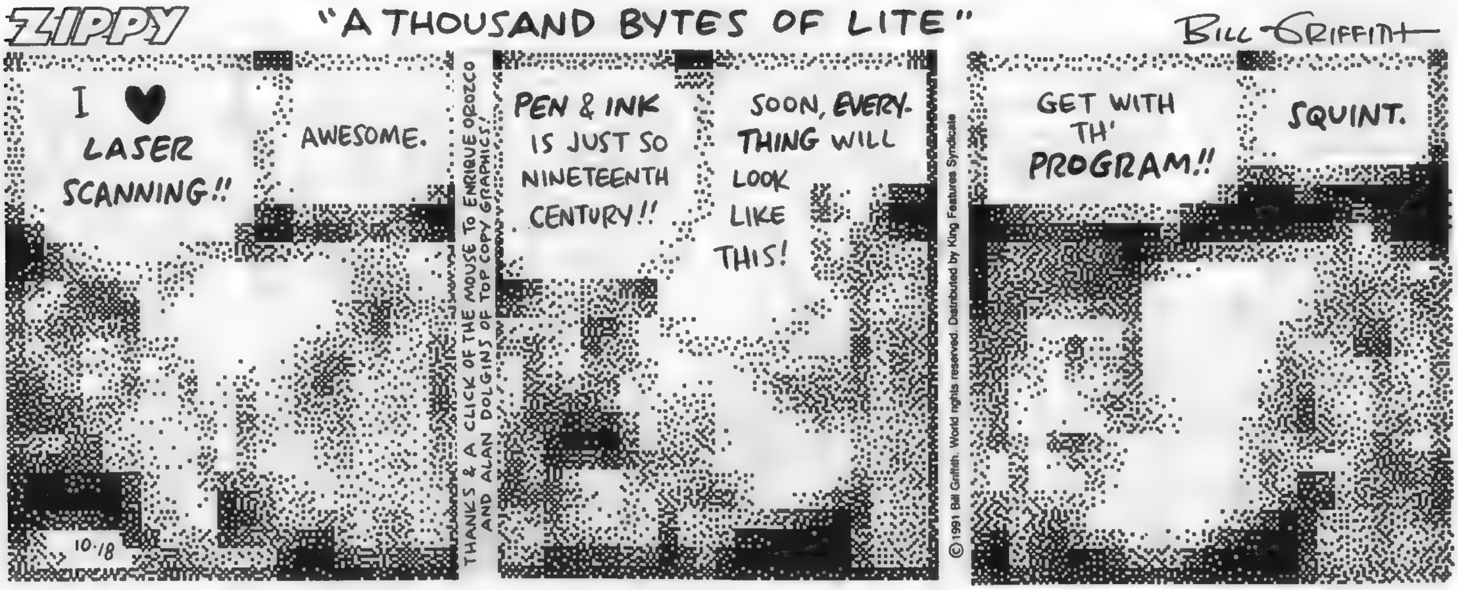
ZIPPY
"A THOUSAND BYTES OF LITE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I ♥ LASER SCANNING!!
AWESOME.
PEN & INK IS JUST SO NINETEENTH CENTURY!!
SOON, EVERYTHING WILL LOOK LIKE THIS!
GET WITH TH' PROGRAM!!
SQUINT.
10.18
THANKS & A CLICK OF THE MOUSE TO ENRIQUE OROZCO AND ALAN DOLGINS OF TOP COPY GRAPHICS!
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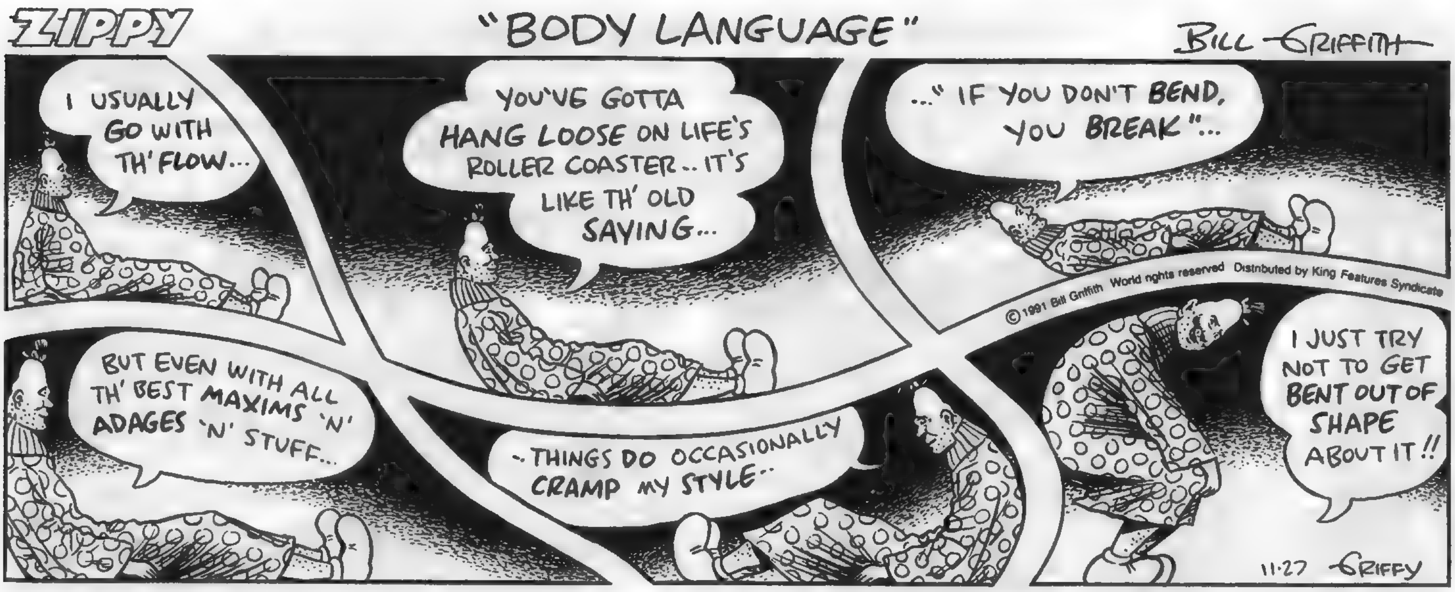
ZIPPY
"BODY LANGUAGE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I USUALLY GO WITH TH' FLOW...
YOU'VE GOTTA HANG LOOSE ON LIFE'S ROLLER COASTER.. IT'S LIKE TH' OLD SAYING...
..."IF YOU DON'T BEND, YOU BREAK"...
BUT EVEN WITH ALL TH' BEST MAXIMS 'N' ADAGES 'N' STUFF..
..THINGS DO OCCASIONALLY CRAMP MY STYLE..
I JUST TRY NOT TO GET BENT OUT OF SHAPE ABOUT IT!!
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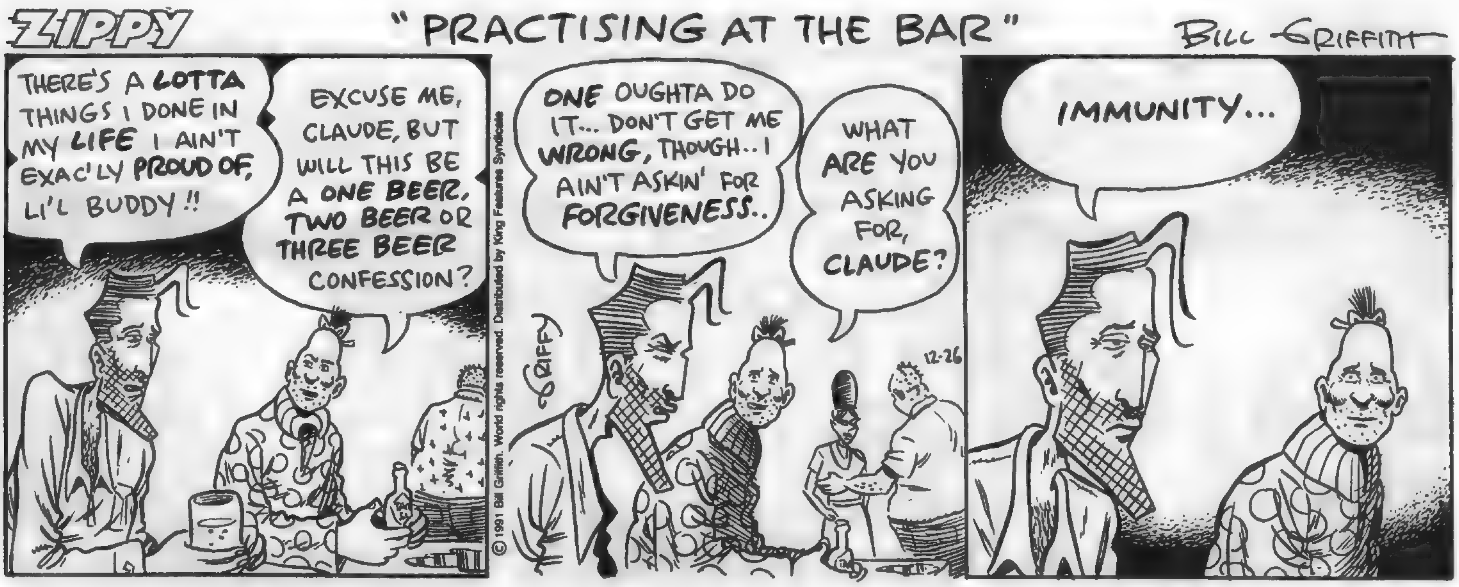
11.27 GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"PRACTISING AT THE BAR"
BILL GRIFFITH
THERE'S A LOTTA THINGS I DONE IN MY LIFE I AIN'T EXAC'LY PROUD OF, LI'L BUDDY!!
EXCUSE ME, CLAUDE, BUT WILL THIS BE A ONE BEER, TWO BEER OR THREE BEER CONFESSION?
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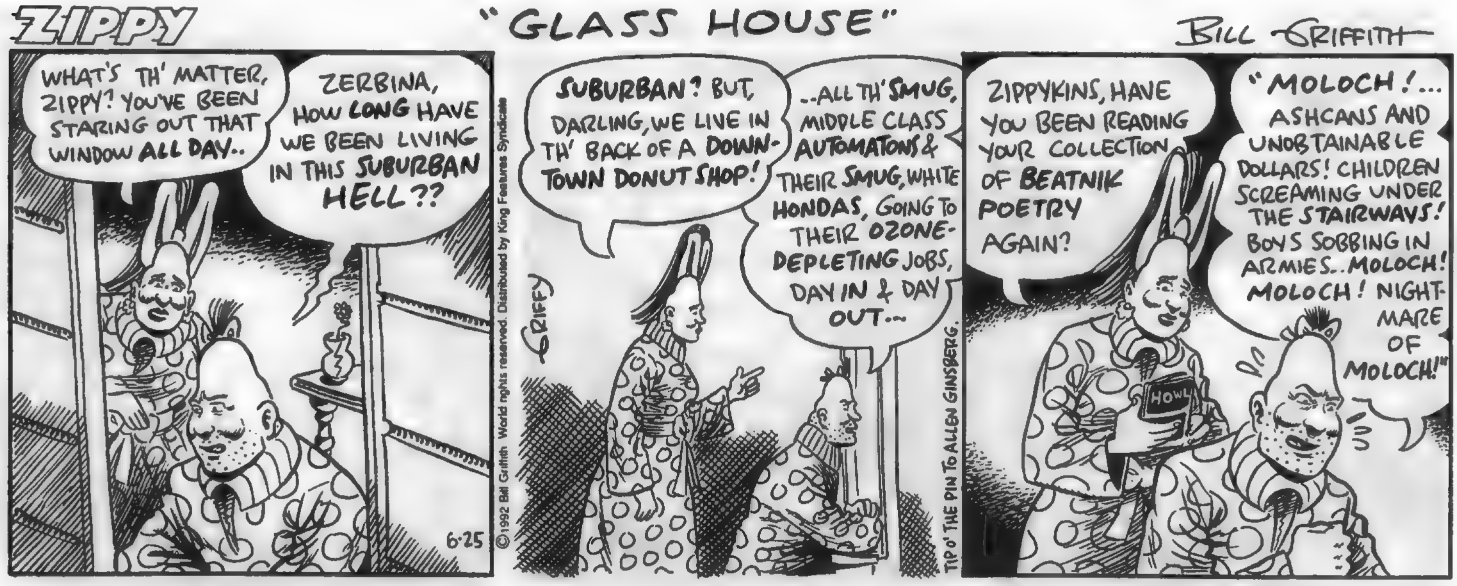
GRIFFY
ONE OUGHTA DO IT... DON'T GET ME WRONG, THOUGH... I AIN'T ASKIN' FOR FORGIVENESS..
WHAT ARE YOU ASKING FOR, CLAUDE?
12-26
IMMUNITY...


ZIPPY
"GLASS HOUSE"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT'S TH' MATTER, ZIPPY? YOU'VE BEEN STARING OUT THAT WINDOW ALL DAY..
ZERBINA, HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN LIVING IN THIS SUBURBAN HELL??
6-25
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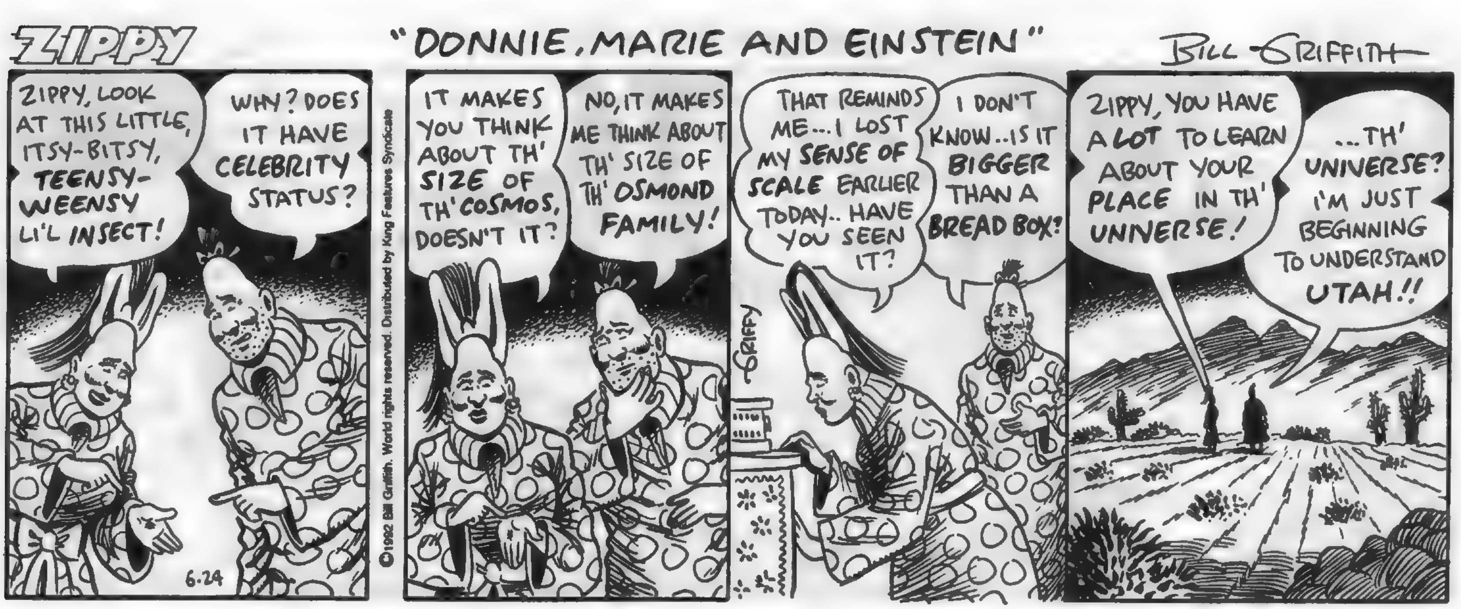
GRIFFY
SUBURBAN? BUT, DARLING, WE LIVE IN TH' BACK OF A DOWNTOWN DONUT SHOP!
..ALL TH' SMUG, MIDDLE CLASS AUTOMATONS & THEIR SMUG, WHITE HONDAS, GOING TO THEIR OZONE-DEPLETING JOBS, DAY IN & DAY OUT..
TIP O' THE PIN TO ALLEN GINSBERG.
ZIPPYKINS, HAVE YOU BEEN READING YOUR COLLECTION OF BEATNIK POETRY AGAIN?
"MOLOCH!... ASHCANS AND UNOBTAINABLE DOLLARS! CHILDREN SCREAMING UNDER THE STAIRWAYS! BOYS SOBBING IN ARMIES.. MOLOCH! MOLOCH! NIGHTMARE OF MOLOCH!"
HOWL


ZIPPY
"DONNIE, MARIE AND EINSTEIN"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, LOOK AT THIS LITTLE, ITSY-BITSY, TEENSY-WEENSY LI'L INSECT!
WHY? DOES IT HAVE CELEBRITY STATUS?
6-24
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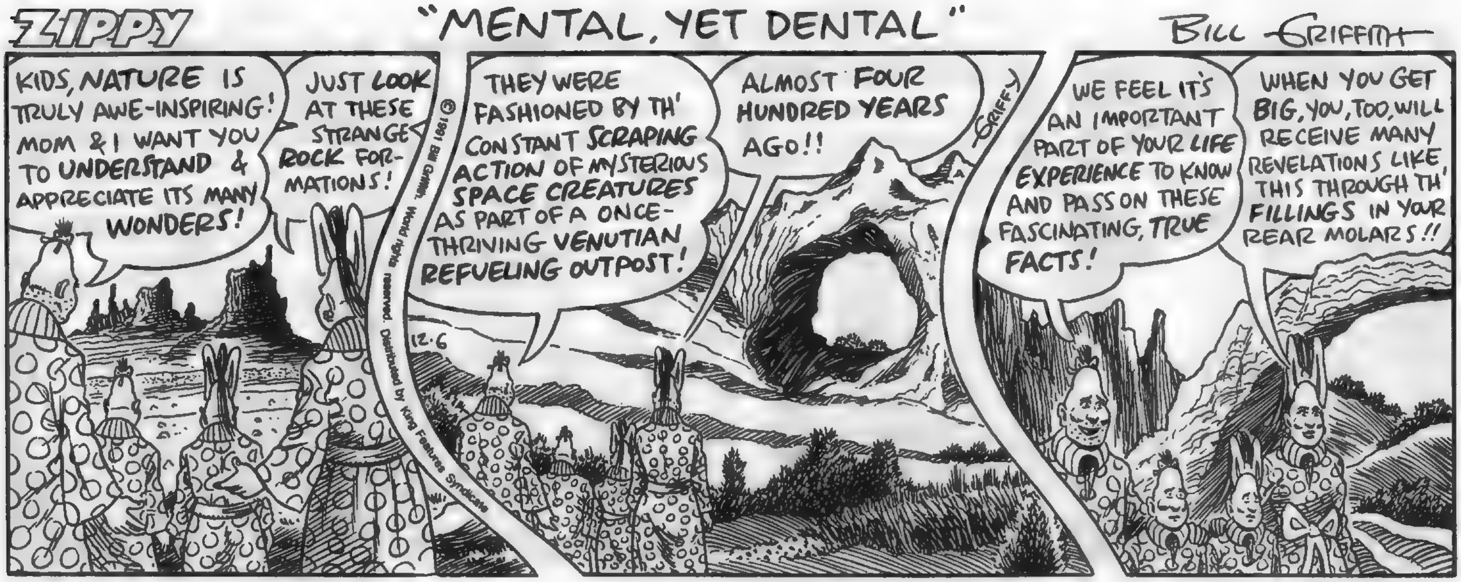
IT MAKES YOU THINK ABOUT TH' SIZE OF TH' COSMOS, DOESN'T IT?
NO, IT MAKES ME THINK ABOUT TH' SIZE OF TH' OSMOND FAMILY!
GRIFFY
THAT REMINDS ME... I LOST MY SENSE OF SCALE EARLIER TODAY.. HAVE YOU SEEN IT?
I DON'T KNOW.. IS IT BIGGER THAN A BREAD BOX?
ZIPPY, YOU HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR PLACE IN TH' UNIVERSE!
...TH' UNIVERSE? I'M JUST BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND UTAH!!


ZIPPY
"MENTAL, YET DENTAL"
BILL GRIFFITH
KIDS, NATURE IS TRULY AWE-INSPIRING! MOM & I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND & APPRECIATE ITS MANY WONDERS!
JUST LOOK AT THESE STRANGE ROCK FORMATIONS!
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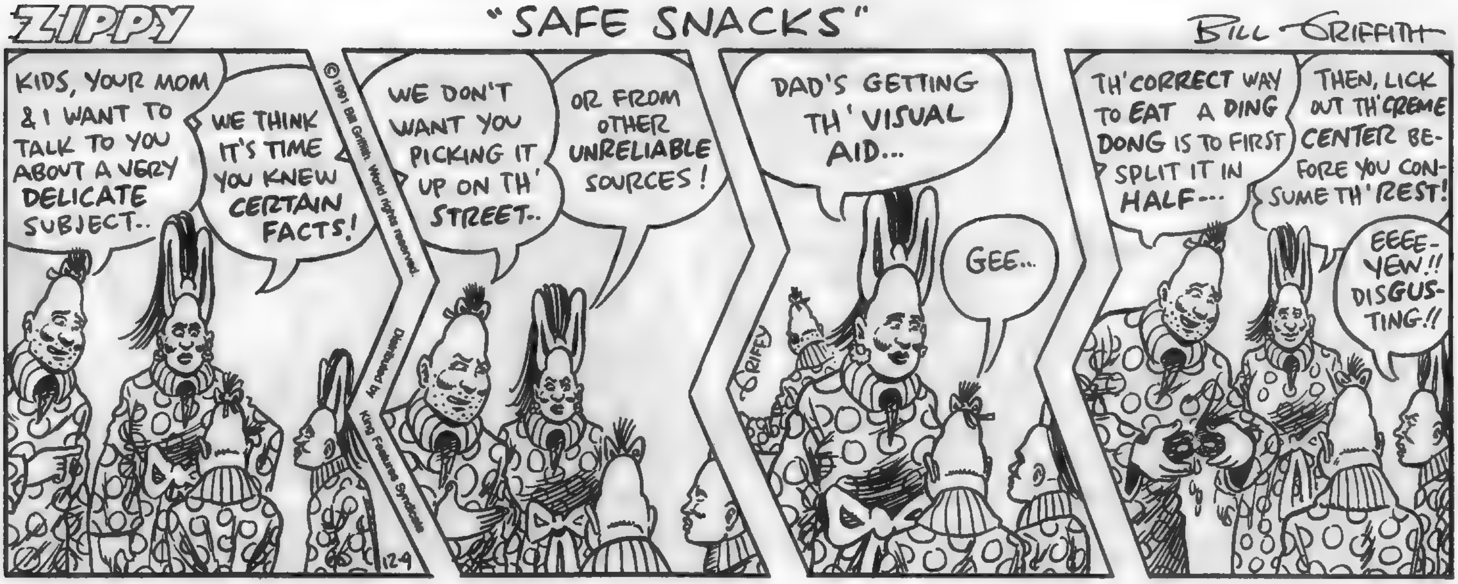
12·6
THEY WERE FASHIONED BY TH' CONSTANT SCRAPING ACTION OF MYSTERIOUS SPACE CREATURES AS PART OF A ONCE-THRIVING VENUTIAN REFUELING OUTPOST!
ALMOST FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO!!
GRIFFY
WE FEEL IT'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR LIFE EXPERIENCE TO KNOW AND PASS ON THESE FASCINATING, TRUE FACTS!
WHEN YOU GET BIG, YOU, TOO, WILL RECEIVE MANY REVELATIONS LIKE THIS THROUGH TH' FILLINGS IN YOUR REAR MOLARS!!


ZIPPY
"SAFE SNACKS"
BILL GRIFFITH
KIDS, YOUR MOM & I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT A VERY DELICATE SUBJECT..
WE THINK IT'S TIME YOU KNEW CERTAIN FACTS!
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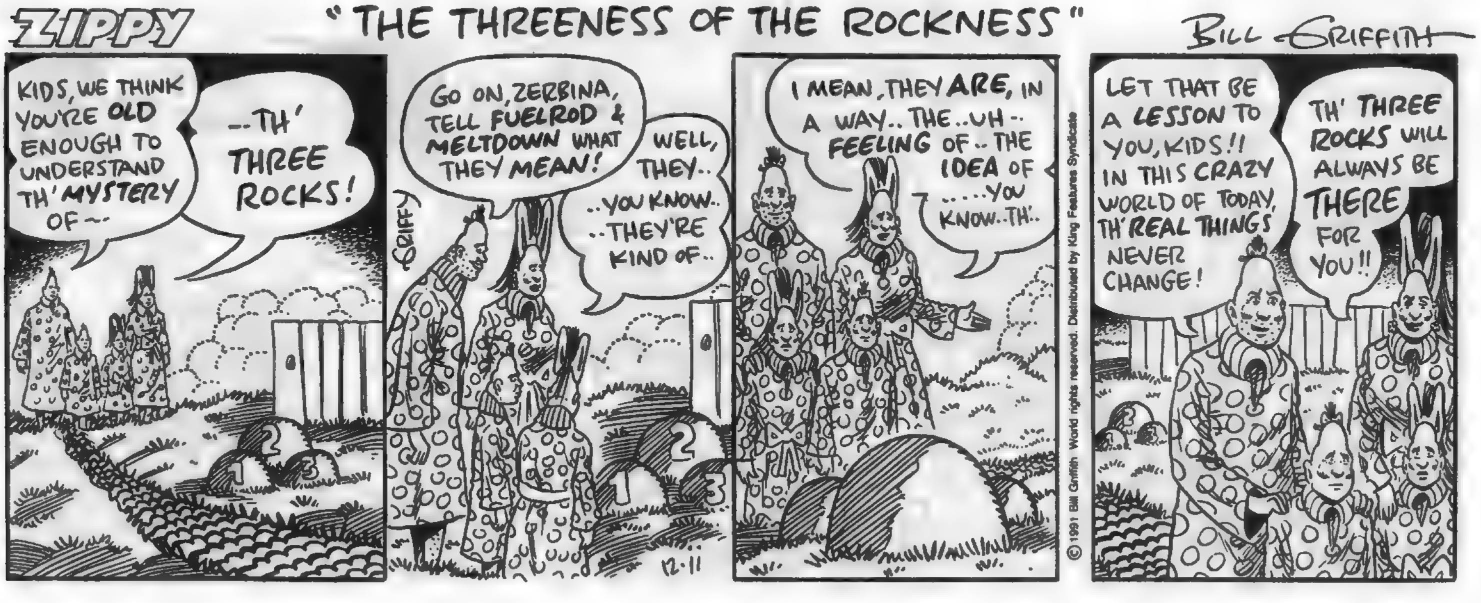
12·4
WE DON'T WANT YOU PICKING IT UP ON TH' STREET..
OR FROM OTHER UNRELIABLE SOURCES!
DAD'S GETTING TH' VISUAL AID...
GEE...
GRIFFY
TH' CORRECT WAY TO EAT A DING DONG IS TO FIRST SPLIT IT IN HALF---
THEN, LICK OUT TH' CREME CENTER BEFORE YOU CONSUME TH' REST!
EEEE-YEW!! DISGUSTING!!


ZIPPY
"THE THREENESS OF THE ROCKNESS"
BILL GRIFFITH
KIDS, WE THINK YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND TH' MYSTERY OF--
--TH' THREE ROCKS!
1
2
3
GO ON, ZERBINA, TELL FUELROD & MELTDOWN WHAT THEY MEAN!
WELL, THEY.. ..YOU KNOW.. ..THEY'RE KIND OF..
GRIFFY
12·11
I MEAN, THEY ARE, IN A WAY.. THE..UH.. FEELING OF.. THE IDEA OF .....YOU KNOW..TH'..
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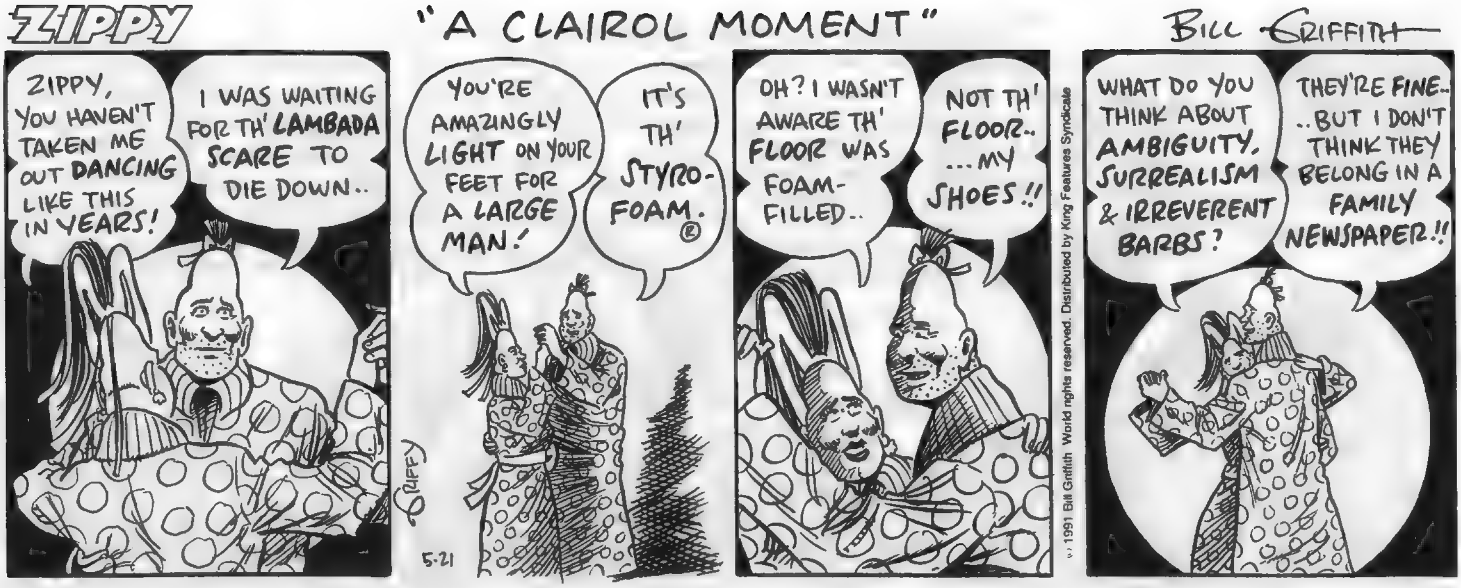
LET THAT BE A LESSON TO YOU, KIDS!! IN THIS CRAZY WORLD OF TODAY, TH' REAL THINGS NEVER CHANGE!
TH' THREE ROCKS WILL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU!!


ZIPPY
"A CLAIROL MOMENT"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, YOU HAVEN'T TAKEN ME OUT DANCING LIKE THIS IN YEARS!
I WAS WAITING FOR TH' LAMBADA SCARE TO DIE DOWN..
YOU'RE AMAZINGLY LIGHT ON YOUR FEET FOR A LARGE MAN!
IT'S TH' STYRO-FOAM.®
GRIFFY
5-21
OH? I WASN'T AWARE TH' FLOOR WAS FOAM-FILLED..
NOT TH' FLOOR.. ...MY SHOES!!
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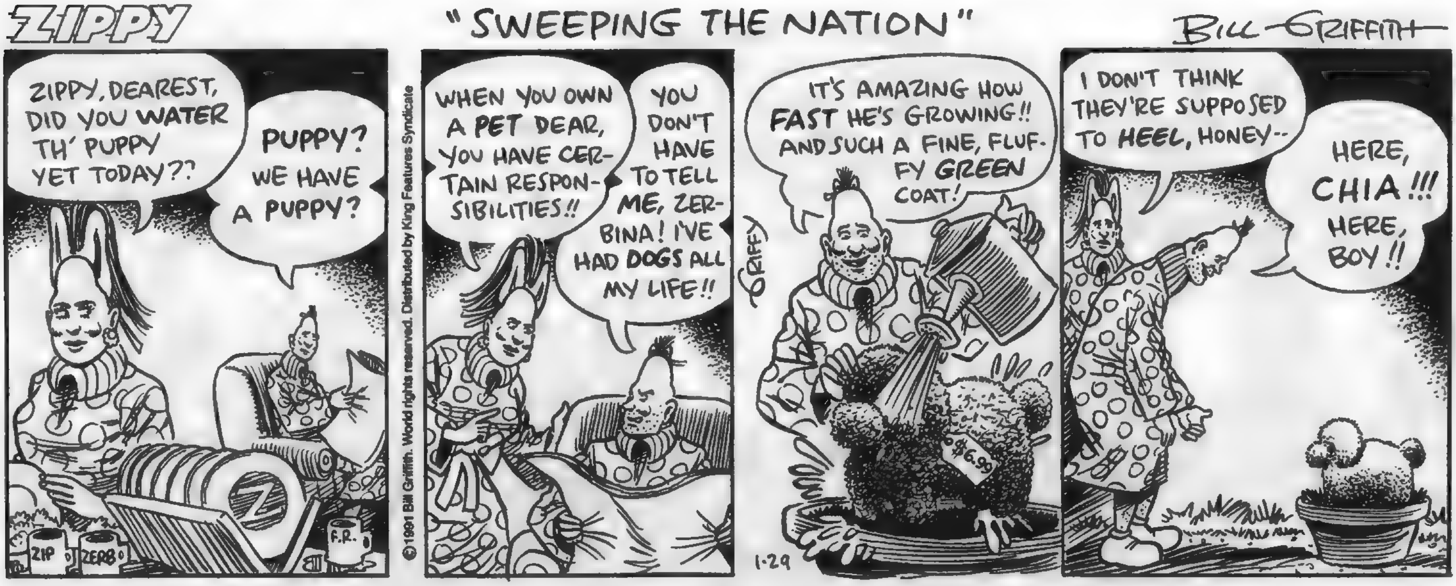
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT AMBIGUITY, SURREALISM & IRREVERENT BARBS?
THEY'RE FINE.. ..BUT I DON'T THINK THEY BELONG IN A FAMILY NEWSPAPER!!


ZIPPY
"SWEEPING THE NATION"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, DEAREST, DID YOU WATER TH' PUPPY YET TODAY??
PUPPY? WE HAVE A PUPPY?
ZIP
ZERB
F.R.
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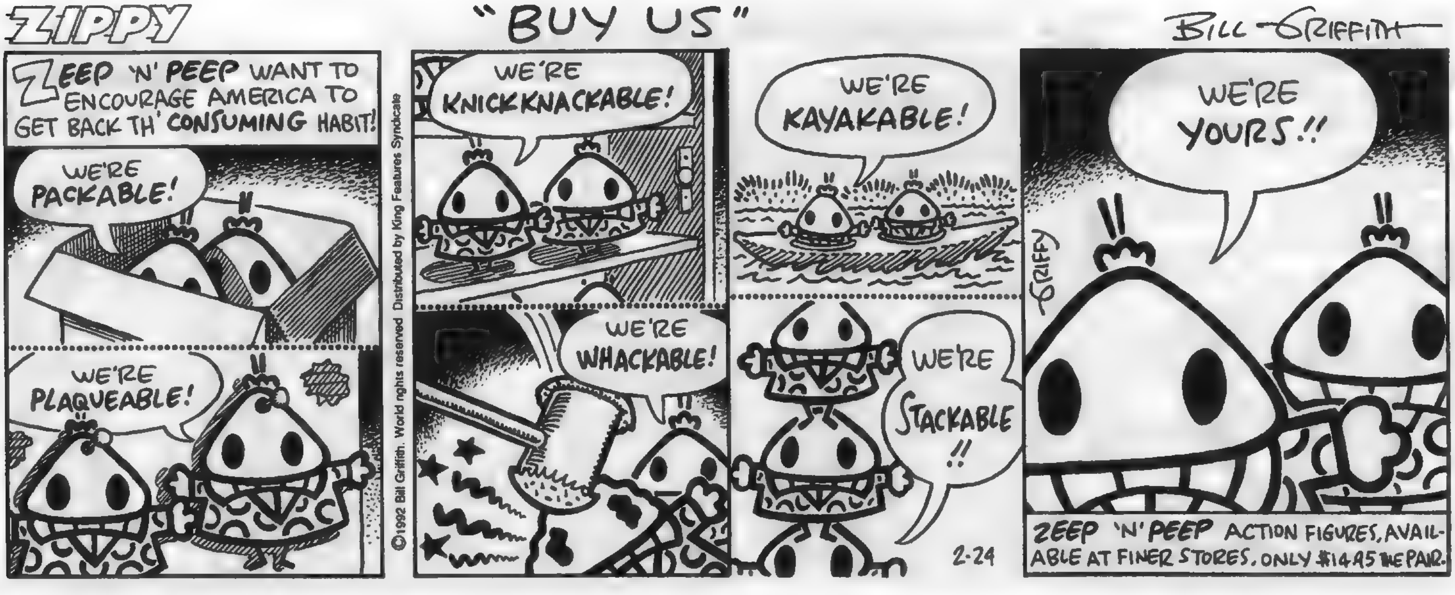
WHEN YOU OWN A PET DEAR, YOU HAVE CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME, ZERBINA! I'VE HAD DOGS ALL MY LIFE!!
GRIFFY
IT'S AMAZING HOW FAST HE'S GROWING!! AND SUCH A FINE, FLUFFY GREEN COAT!
$6.90
1-29
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO HEEL, HONEY--
HERE, CHIA!!! HERE, BOY!!


ZIPPY
"BUY US"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZEEP 'N' PEEP WANT TO ENCOURAGE AMERICA TO GET BACK TH' CONSUMING HABIT!
WE'RE PACKABLE!
WE'RE PLAQUEABLE!
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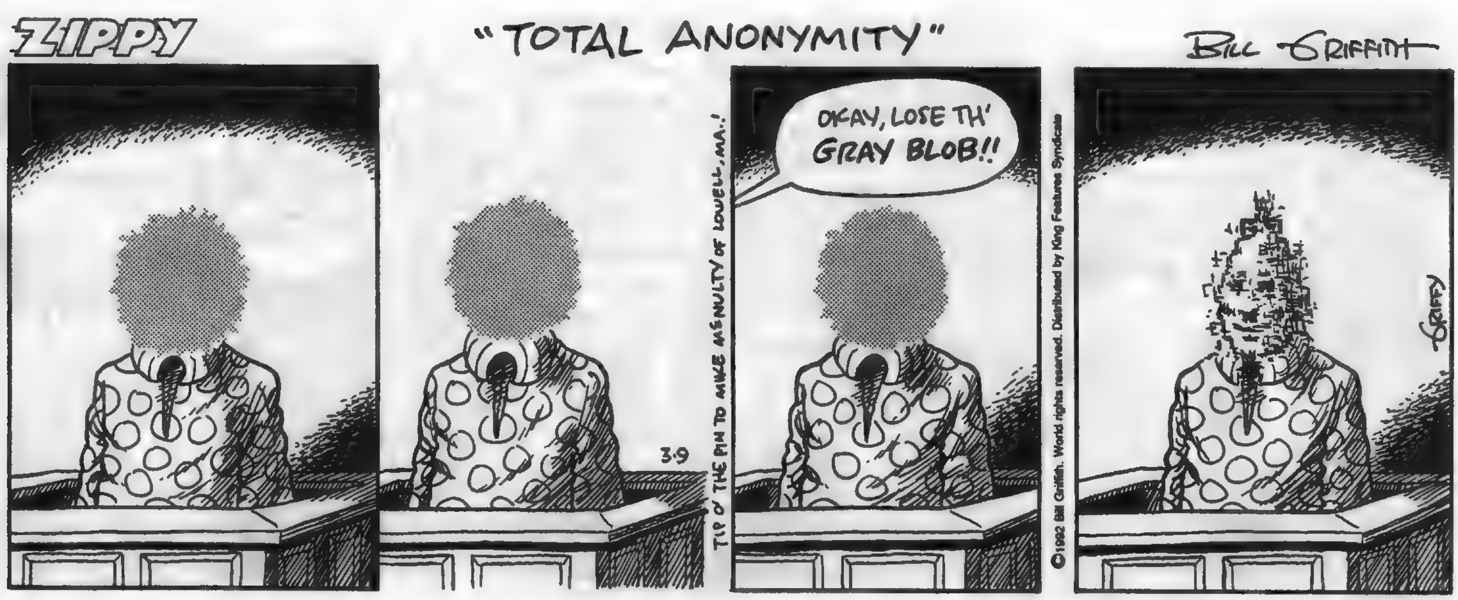
WE'RE KNICKKNACKABLE!
WE'RE WHACKABLE!
WE'RE KAYAKABLE!
WE'RE STACKABLE!!
2-24
GRIFFY
WE'RE YOURS!!
ZEEP 'N' PEEP ACTION FIGURES, AVAILABLE AT FINER STORES. ONLY $14.95 THE PAIR.


ZIPPY
"TOTAL ANONYMITY"
BILL GRIFFITH
3·9
TIP O' THE PIN TO MIKE McNULTY OF LOWELL, MA.!
OKAY, LOSE TH' GRAY BLOB!!
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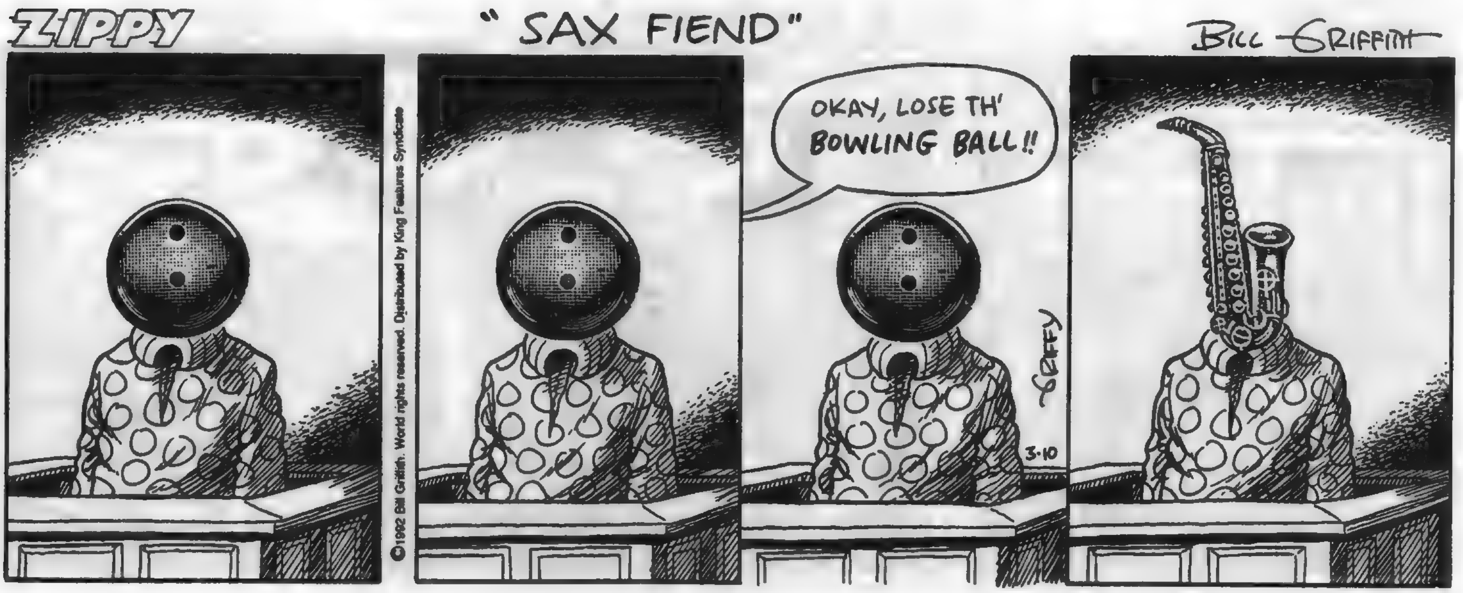
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"SAX FIEND"
BILL GRIFFITH
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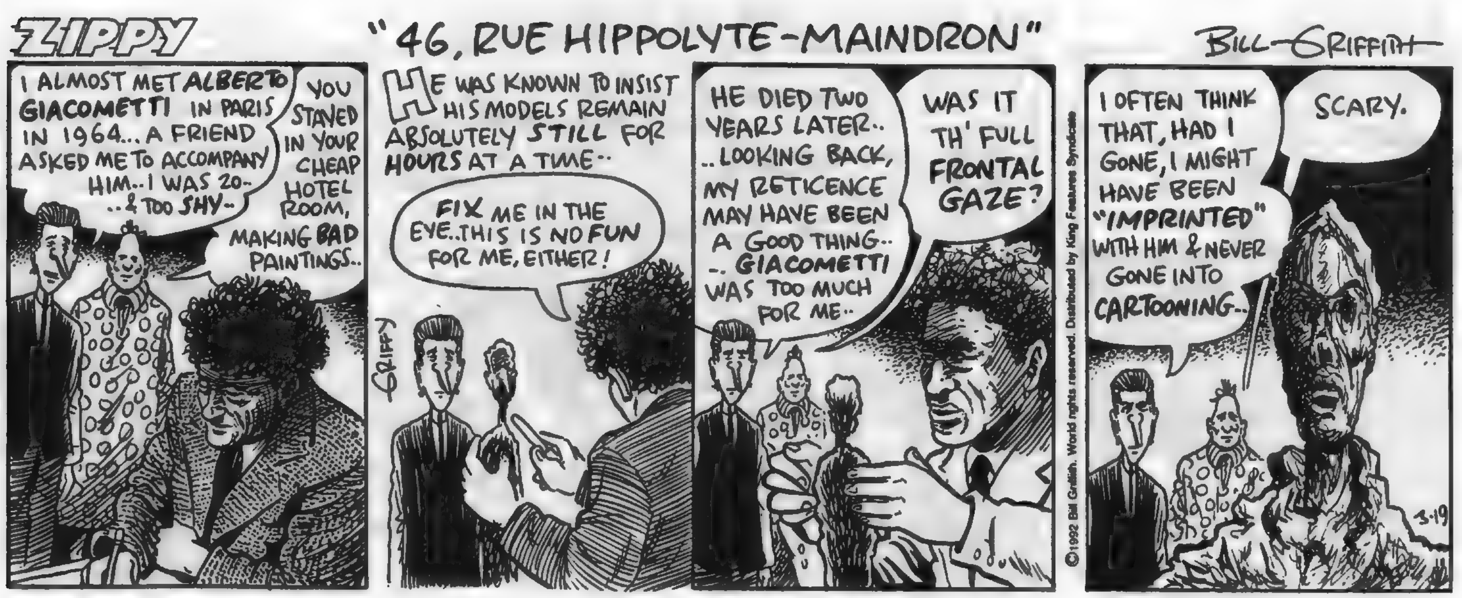
OKAY, LOSE TH' BOWLING BALL!!
GRIFFY
3·10


ZIPPY
"46, RUE HIPPOLYTE-MAINDRON"
BILL GRIFFITH
I ALMOST MET ALBERTO GIACOMETTI IN PARIS IN 1964... A FRIEND ASKED ME TO ACCOMPANY HIM.. I WAS 20.. ..& TOO SHY..
YOU STAYED IN YOUR CHEAP HOTEL ROOM, MAKING BAD PAINTINGS..
HE WAS KNOWN TO INSIST HIS MODELS REMAIN ABSOLUTELY STILL FOR HOURS AT A TIME..
FIX ME IN THE EYE.. THIS IS NO FUN FOR ME, EITHER!
GRIFFY
HE DIED TWO YEARS LATER.. ..LOOKING BACK, MY RETICENCE MAY HAVE BEEN A GOOD THING.. ..GIACOMETTI WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME..
WAS IT TH' FULL FRONTAL GAZE?
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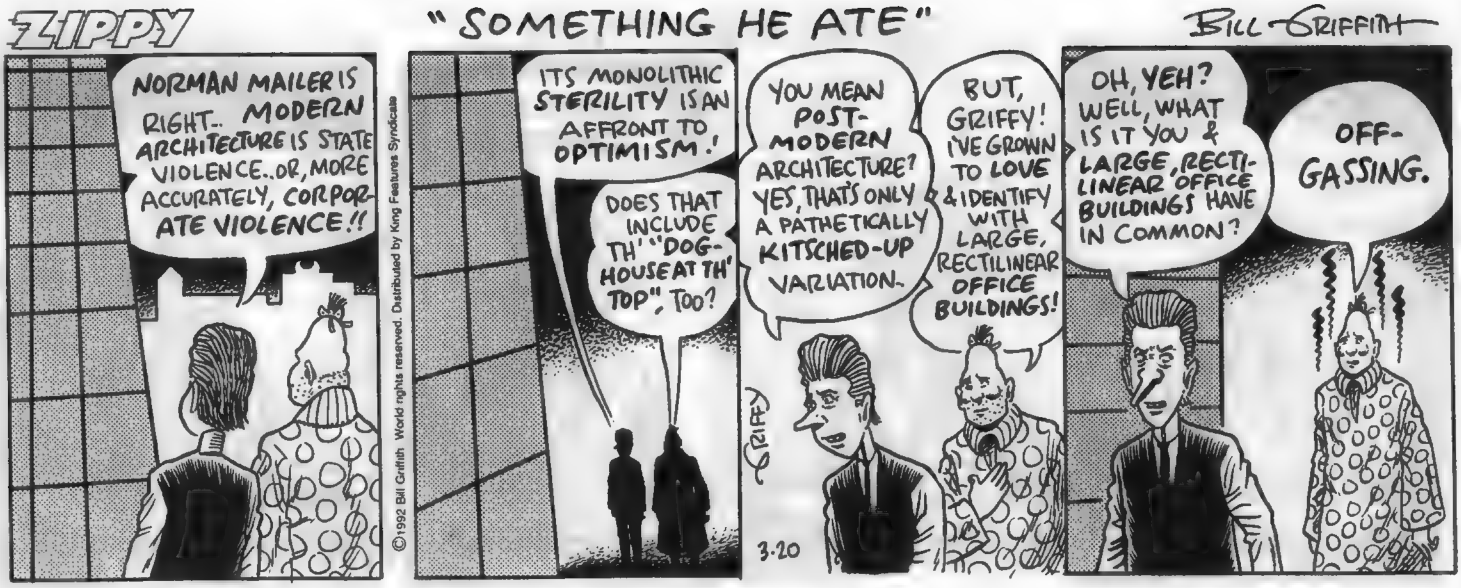
I OFTEN THINK THAT, HAD I GONE, I MIGHT HAVE BEEN "IMPRINTED" WITH HIM & NEVER GONE INTO CARTOONING..
SCARY.
3·19


ZIPPY
"SOMETHING HE ATE"
BILL GRIFFITH
NORMAN MAILER IS RIGHT.. MODERN ARCHITECTURE IS STATE VIOLENCE..OR, MORE ACCURATELY, CORPORATE VIOLENCE!!
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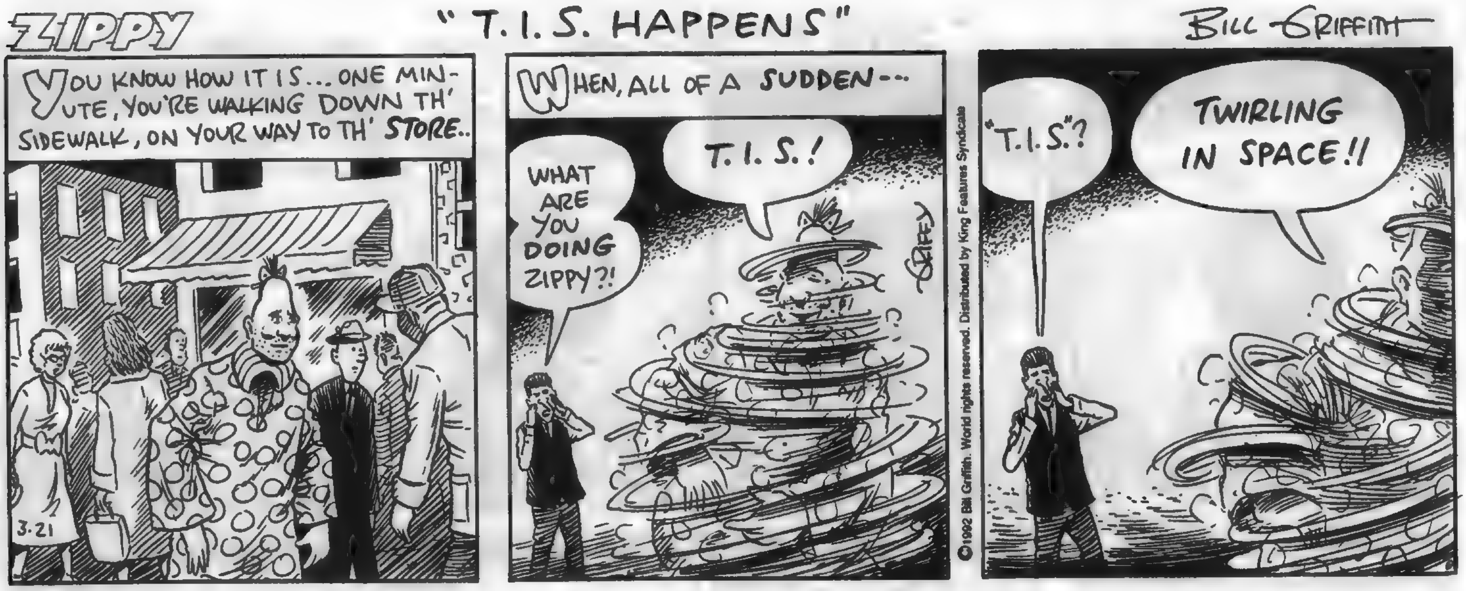
ITS MONOLITHIC STERILITY IS AN AFFRONT TO OPTIMISM!
DOES THAT INCLUDE TH' "DOG-HOUSE AT TH' TOP", TOO?
YOU MEAN POST-MODERN ARCHITECTURE? YES, THAT'S ONLY A PATHETICALLY KITSCHED-UP VARIATION.
BUT, GRIFFY! I'VE GROWN TO LOVE & IDENTIFY WITH LARGE, RECTILINEAR OFFICE BUILDINGS!
GRIFFY
3·20
OH, YEH? WELL, WHAT IS IT YOU & LARGE, RECTILINEAR OFFICE BUILDINGS HAVE IN COMMON?
OFF-GASSING.


ZIPPY
"T.I.S. HAPPENS"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW HOW IT IS... ONE MINUTE, YOU'RE WALKING DOWN TH' SIDEWALK, ON YOUR WAY TO TH' STORE..
3·21
WHEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN---
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ZIPPY?!
T.I.S.!
GRIFFY
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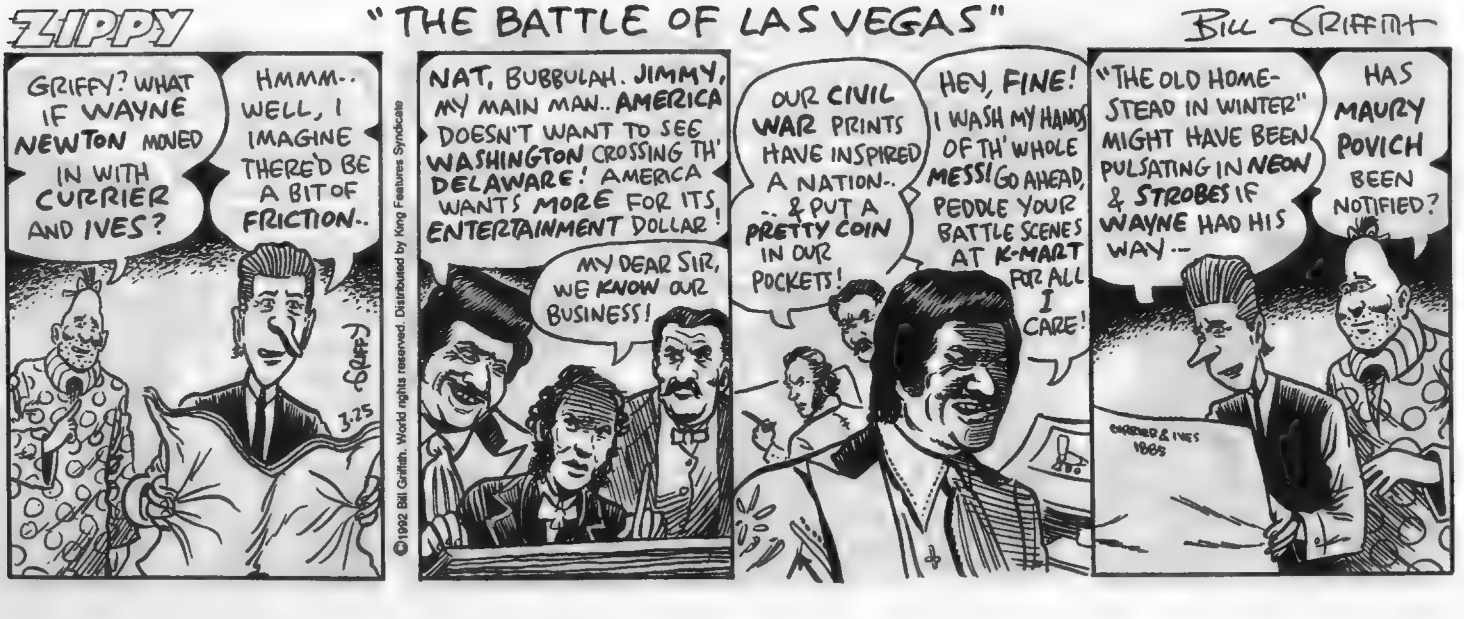
"T.I.S."?
TWIRLING IN SPACE!!


ZIPPY
"THE BATTLE OF LAS VEGAS"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY? WHAT IF WAYNE NEWTON MOVED IN WITH CURRIER AND IVES?
HMMM.. WELL, I IMAGINE THERE'D BE A BIT OF FRICTION..
GRIFFY
3.25
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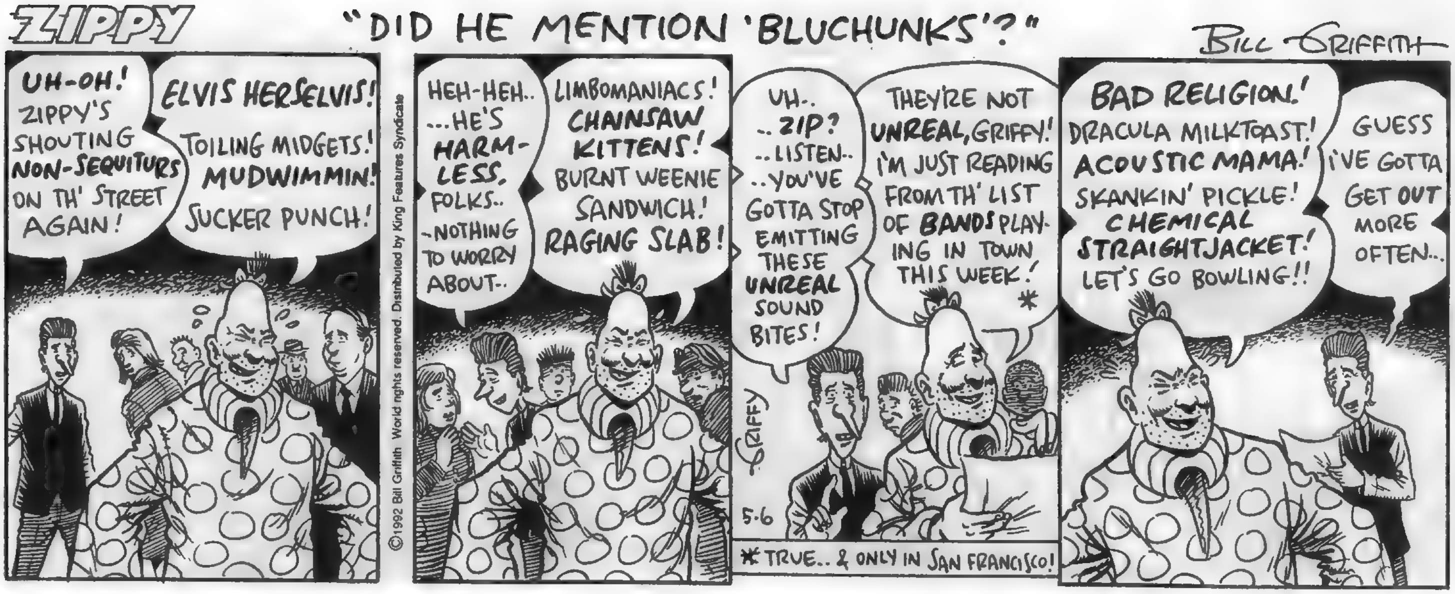
NAT, BUBBULAH. JIMMY, MY MAIN MAN.. AMERICA DOESN'T WANT TO SEE WASHINGTON CROSSING TH' DELAWARE! AMERICA WANTS MORE FOR ITS ENTERTAINMENT DOLLAR!
MY DEAR SIR, WE KNOW OUR BUSINESS!
OUR CIVIL WAR PRINTS HAVE INSPIRED A NATION.. ..& PUT A PRETTY COIN IN OUR POCKETS!
HEY, FINE! I WASH MY HANDS OF TH' WHOLE MESS! GO AHEAD, PEDDLE YOUR BATTLE SCENES AT K-MART FOR ALL I CARE!
"THE OLD HOME-STEAD IN WINTER" MIGHT HAVE BEEN PULSATING IN NEON & STROBES IF WAYNE HAD HIS WAY--
HAS MAURY POVICH BEEN NOTIFIED?
CURRIER & IVES 1863


ZIPPY
"DID HE MENTION 'BLUCHUNKS'?"
BILL GRIFFITH
UH-OH! ZIPPY'S SHOUTING NON-SEQUITURS ON TH' STREET AGAIN!
ELVIS HERSELVIS! TOILING MIDGETS! MUDWIMMIN! SUCKER PUNCH!
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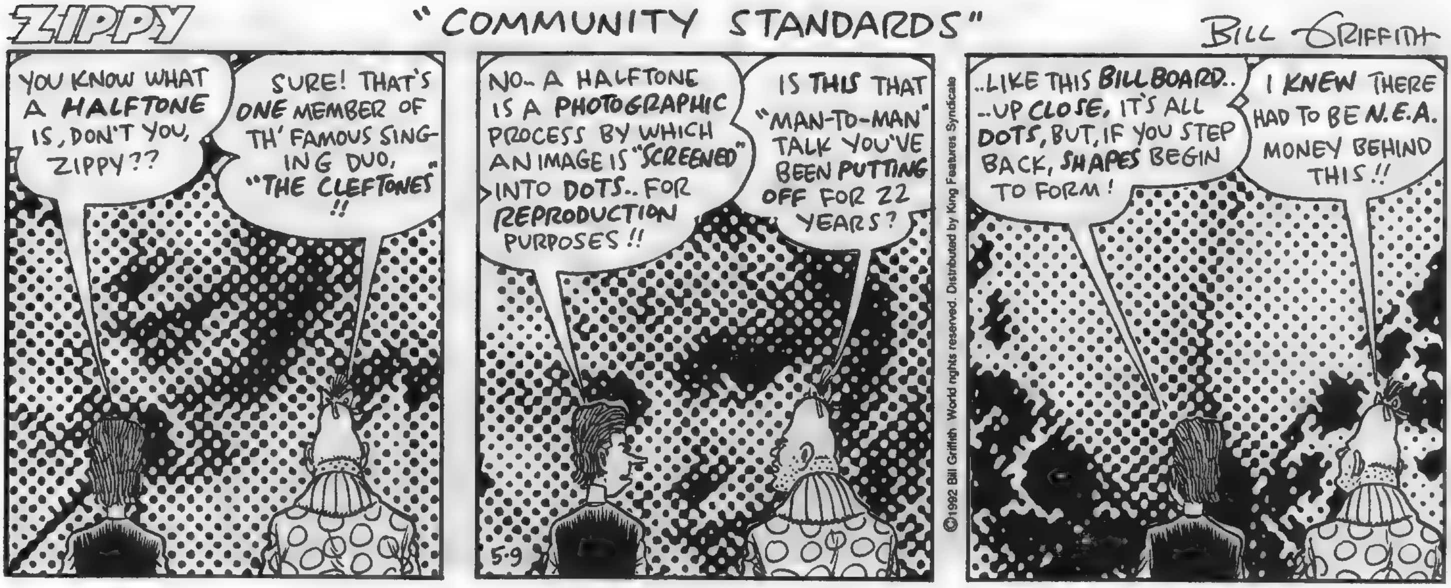
HEH-HEH.. ...HE'S HARMLESS, FOLKS.. -NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT..
LIMBOMANIACS! CHAINSAW KITTENS! BURNT WEENIE SANDWICH! RAGING SLAB!
UH.. ..ZIP? ..LISTEN.. ..YOU'VE GOTTA STOP EMITTING THESE UNREAL SOUND BITES!
THEY'RE NOT UNREAL, GRIFFY! I'M JUST READING FROM TH' LIST OF BANDS PLAYING IN TOWN THIS WEEK! *
GRIFFY
5-6
* TRUE.. & ONLY IN SAN FRANCISCO!
BAD RELIGION! DRACULA MILKTOAST! ACOUSTIC MAMA! SKANKIN' PICKLE! CHEMICAL STRAIGHTJACKET! LET'S GO BOWLING!!
GUESS I'VE GOTTA GET OUT MORE OFTEN..


ZIPPY
"COMMUNITY STANDARDS"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW WHAT A HALFTONE IS, DON'T YOU, ZIPPY??
SURE! THAT'S ONE MEMBER OF TH' FAMOUS SINGING DUO, "THE CLEFTONES"!!
NO.. A HALFTONE IS A PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS BY WHICH AN IMAGE IS "SCREENED" INTO DOTS.. FOR REPRODUCTION PURPOSES!!
IS THIS THAT "MAN-TO-MAN" TALK YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING OFF FOR 22 YEARS?
5-9
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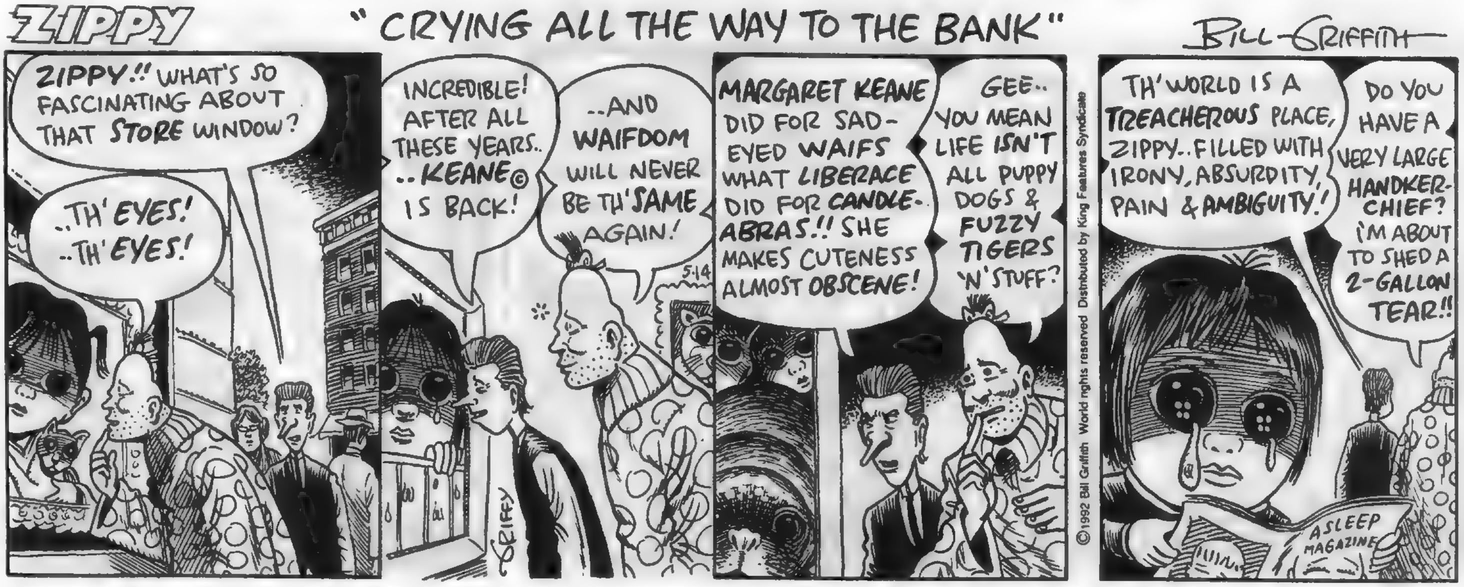
..LIKE THIS BILLBOARD.. ..UP CLOSE, IT'S ALL DOTS, BUT, IF YOU STEP BACK, SHAPES BEGIN TO FORM!
I KNEW THERE HAD TO BE N.E.A. MONEY BEHIND THIS!!


ZIPPY
"CRYING ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY!! WHAT'S SO FASCINATING ABOUT THAT STORE WINDOW?
..TH' EYES! ..TH' EYES!
INCREDIBLE! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS.. ..KEANE© IS BACK!
--AND WAIFDOM WILL NEVER BE TH' SAME AGAIN!
5-14
GRIFFY
MARGARET KEANE DID FOR SAD-EYED WAIFS WHAT LIBERACE DID FOR CANDLEABRAS!! SHE MAKES CUTENESS ALMOST OBSCENE!
GEE.. YOU MEAN LIFE ISN'T ALL PUPPY DOGS & FUZZY TIGERS 'N' STUFF?
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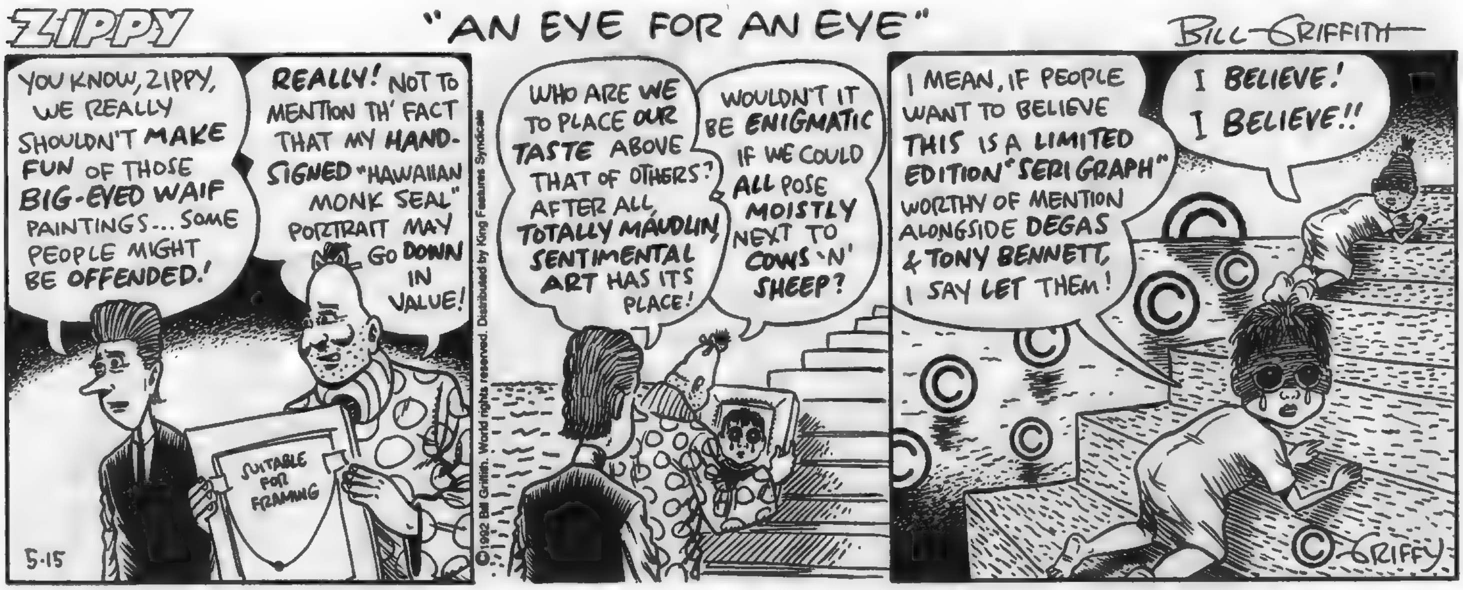
TH' WORLD IS A TREACHEROUS PLACE, ZIPPY.. FILLED WITH IRONY, ABSURDITY, PAIN & AMBIGUITY!
DO YOU HAVE A VERY LARGE HANDKERCHIEF? I'M ABOUT TO SHED A 2-GALLON TEAR!!
ASLEEP MAGAZINE


ZIPPY
"AN EYE FOR AN EYE"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW, ZIPPY, WE REALLY SHOULDN'T MAKE FUN OF THOSE BIG-EYED WAIF PAINTINGS... SOME PEOPLE MIGHT BE OFFENDED!
REALLY! NOT TO MENTION TH' FACT THAT MY HAND-SIGNED "HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL" PORTRAIT MAY ~~NOT~~ GO DOWN IN VALUE!
SUITABLE FOR FRAMING
5-15
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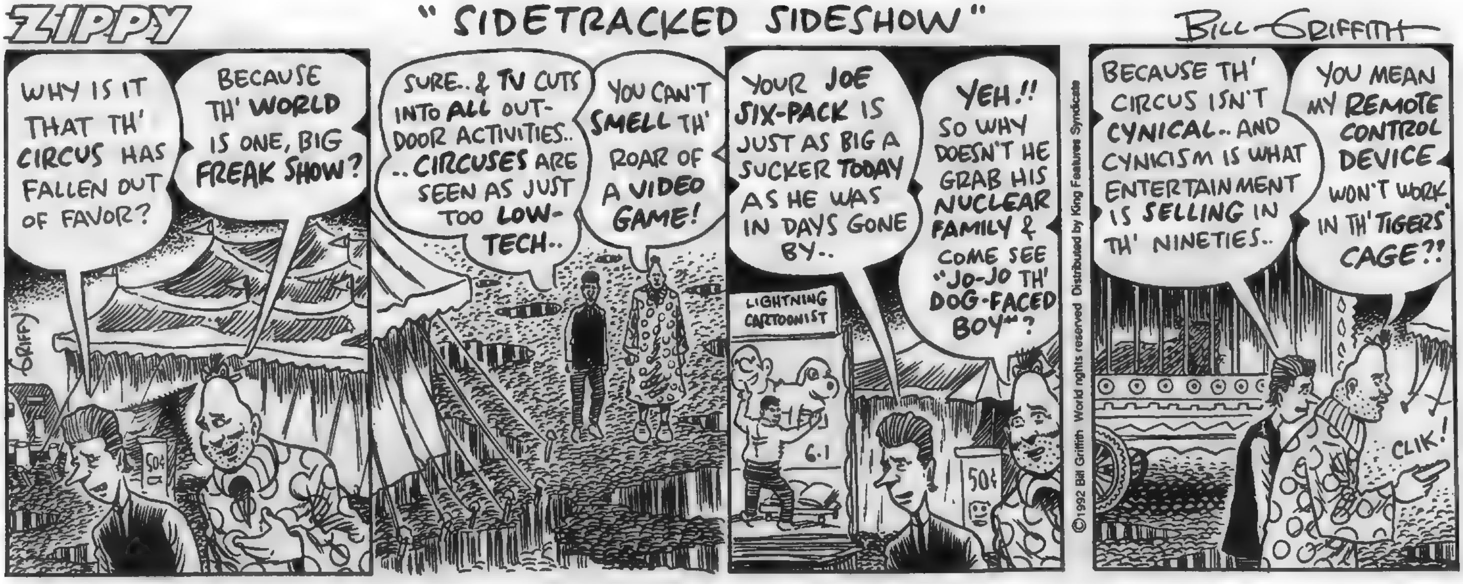
WHO ARE WE TO PLACE OUR TASTE ABOVE THAT OF OTHERS? AFTER ALL, TOTALLY MAUDLIN, SENTIMENTAL ART HAS ITS PLACE!
WOULDN'T IT BE ENIGMATIC IF WE COULD ALL POSE MOISTLY NEXT TO COWS 'N' SHEEP?
I MEAN, IF PEOPLE WANT TO BELIEVE THIS IS A LIMITED EDITION "SERI GRAPH" WORTHY OF MENTION ALONGSIDE DEGAS & TONY BENNETT, I SAY LET THEM!
I BELIEVE! I BELIEVE!!
©
GRIFFY


ZIPPY
"SIDETRACKED SIDESHOW"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHY IS IT THAT TH' CIRCUS HAS FALLEN OUT OF FAVOR?
BECAUSE TH' WORLD IS ONE, BIG FREAK SHOW?
GRIFFY
50¢
SURE.. & TV CUTS INTO ALL OUT-DOOR ACTIVITIES.. ..CIRCUSES ARE SEEN AS JUST TOO LOW-TECH..
YOU CAN'T SMELL TH' ROAR OF A VIDEO GAME!
YOUR JOE SIX-PACK IS JUST AS BIG A SUCKER TODAY AS HE WAS IN DAYS GONE BY..
YEH!! SO WHY DOESN'T HE GRAB HIS NUCLEAR FAMILY & COME SEE "JO-JO TH' DOG-FACED BOY"?
LIGHTNING CARTOONIST
6-1
50¢
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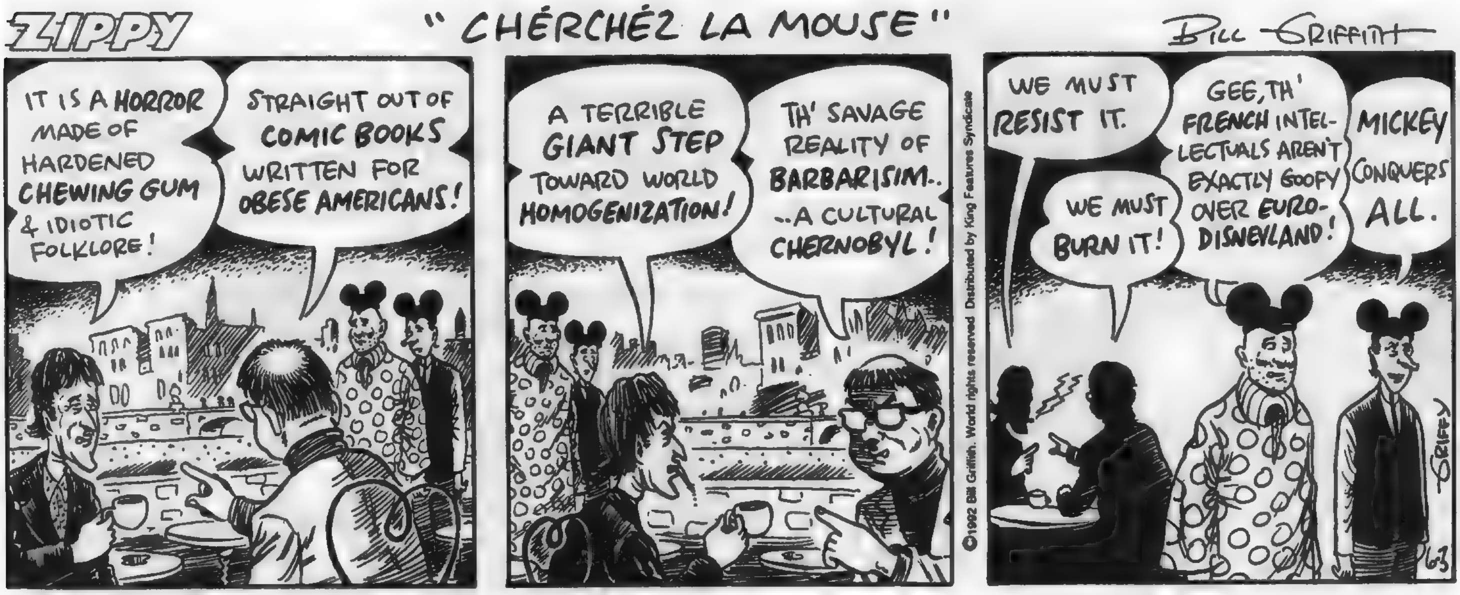
BECAUSE TH' CIRCUS ISN'T CYNICAL.. AND CYNICISM IS WHAT ENTERTAINMENT IS SELLING IN TH' NINETIES..
YOU MEAN MY REMOTE CONTROL DEVICE WON'T WORK IN TH' TIGERS' CAGE?!
CLIK!


ZIPPY
"CHÉRCHÉZ LA MOUSE"
BILL GRIFFITH
IT IS A HORROR MADE OF HARDENED CHEWING GUM & IDIOTIC FOLKLORE!
STRAIGHT OUT OF COMIC BOOKS WRITTEN FOR OBESE AMERICANS!
A TERRIBLE GIANT STEP TOWARD WORLD HOMOGENIZATION!
TH' SAVAGE REALITY OF BARBARISIM.. ..A CULTURAL CHERNOBYL!
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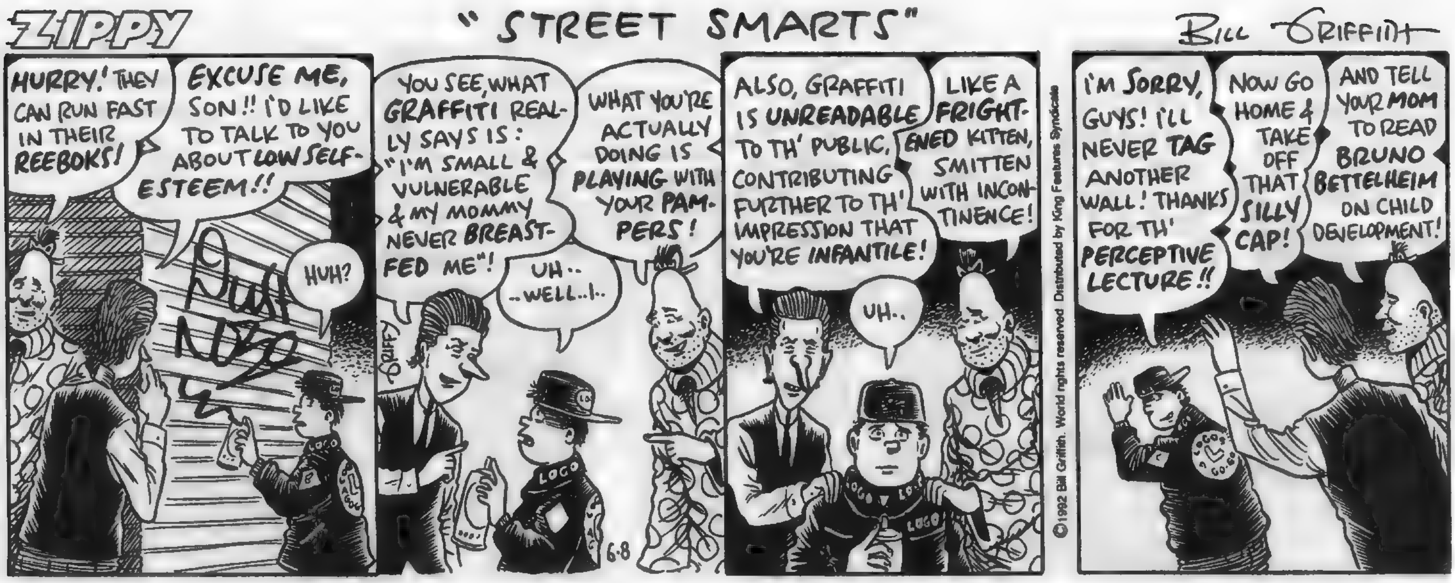
WE MUST RESIST IT.
WE MUST BURN IT!
GEE, TH' FRENCH INTELLECTUALS AREN'T EXACTLY GOOFY OVER EURO-DISNEYLAND!
MICKEY CONQUERS ALL.
GRIFFY
6-3


ZIPPY
"STREET SMARTS"
BILL GRIFFITH
HURRY! THEY CAN RUN FAST IN THEIR REEBOKS!
EXCUSE ME, SON!! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT LOW SELF-ESTEEM!!
HUH?
YOU SEE, WHAT GRAFFITI REALLY SAYS IS: "I'M SMALL & VULNERABLE & MY MOMMY NEVER BREAST-FED ME"!
WHAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY DOING IS PLAYING WITH YOUR PAMPERS!
UH.. ..WELL..I..
GRIFFY
6-8
ALSO, GRAFFITI IS UNREADABLE TO TH' PUBLIC, CONTRIBUTING FURTHER TO TH' IMPRESSION THAT YOU'RE INFANTILE!
LIKE A FRIGHTENED KITTEN, SMITTEN WITH INCONTINENCE!
UH..
LOCO
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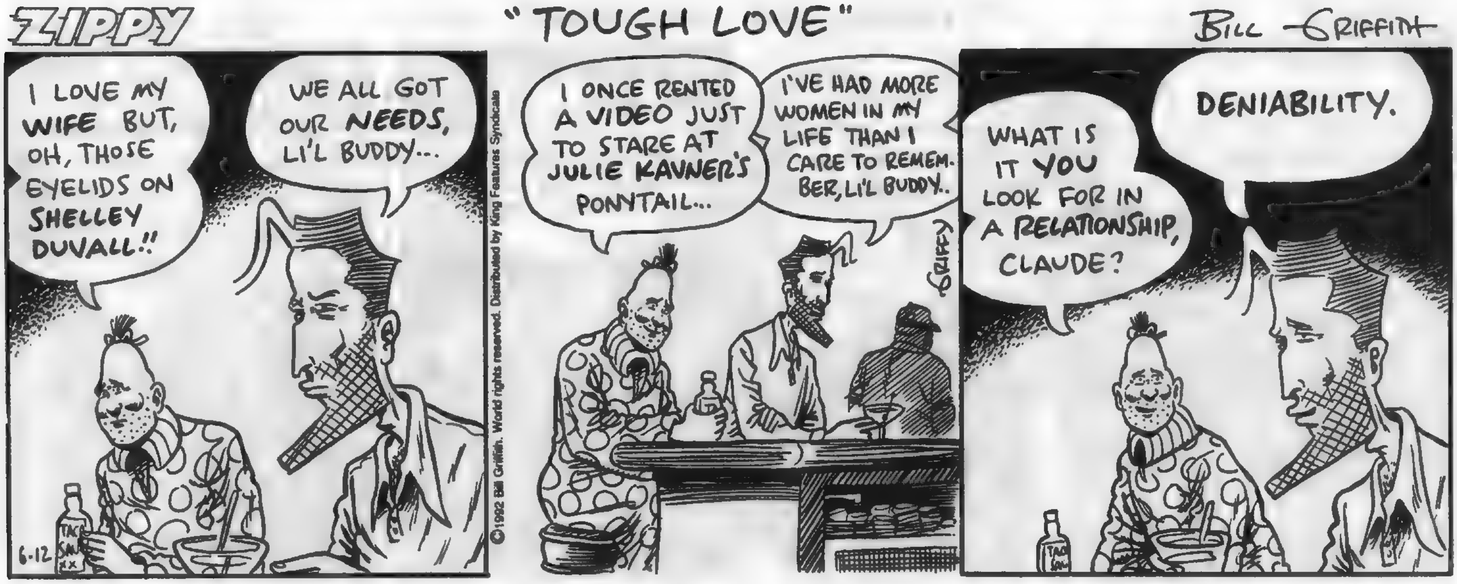
I'M SORRY, GUYS! I'LL NEVER TAG ANOTHER WALL! THANKS FOR TH' PERCEPTIVE LECTURE!!
NOW GO HOME & TAKE OFF THAT SILLY CAP!
AND TELL YOUR MOM TO READ BRUNO BETTELHEIM ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT!
LOCOS A GO-GO


ZIPPY
"TOUGH LOVE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I LOVE MY WIFE BUT, OH, THOSE EYELIDS ON SHELLEY DUVALL!!
WE ALL GOT OUR NEEDS, LI'L BUDDY...
6-12
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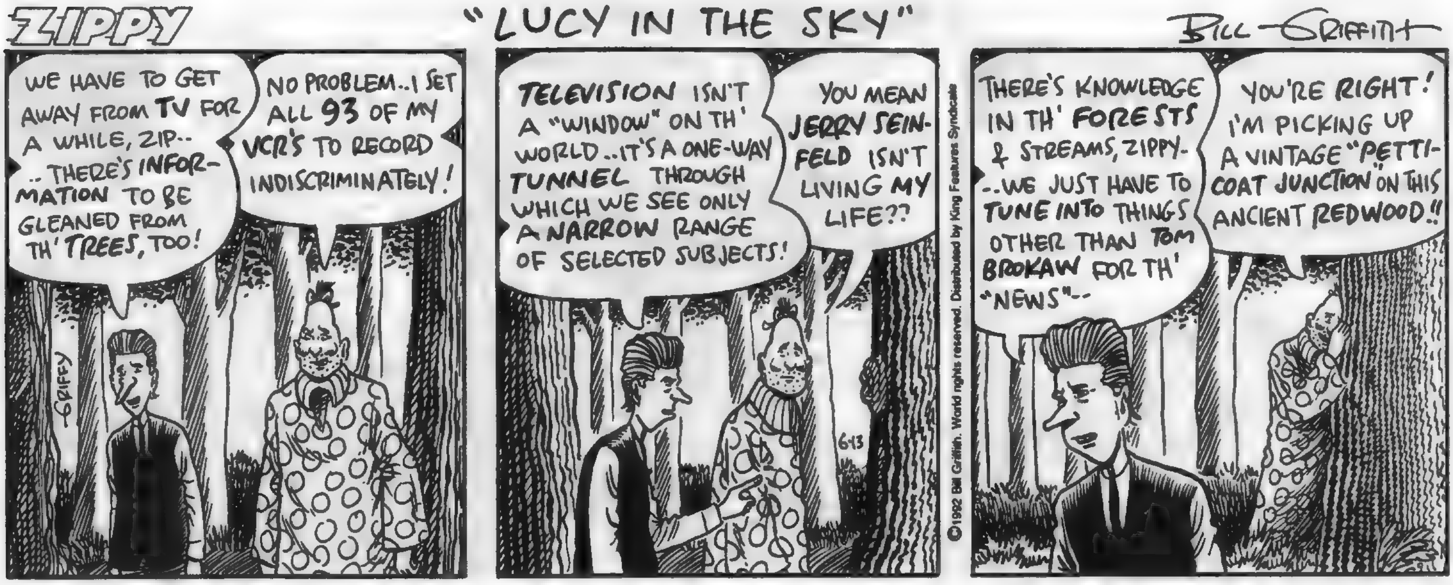
I ONCE RENTED A VIDEO JUST TO STARE AT JULIE KAVNER'S PONYTAIL...
I'VE HAD MORE WOMEN IN MY LIFE THAN I CARE TO REMEMBER, LI'L BUDDY..
GRIFFY
WHAT IS IT YOU LOOK FOR IN A RELATIONSHIP, CLAUDE?
DENIABILITY.


ZIPPY
"LUCY IN THE SKY"
BILL GRIFFITH
WE HAVE TO GET AWAY FROM TV FOR A WHILE, ZIP-- ..THERE'S INFORMATION TO BE GLEANED FROM TH' TREES, TOO!
NO PROBLEM..I SET ALL 93 OF MY VCR'S TO RECORD INDISCRIMINATELY!
GRIFFY
TELEVISION ISN'T A "WINDOW" ON TH' WORLD..IT'S A ONE-WAY TUNNEL THROUGH WHICH WE SEE ONLY A NARROW RANGE OF SELECTED SUBJECTS!
YOU MEAN JERRY SEINFELD ISN'T LIVING MY LIFE??
6-13
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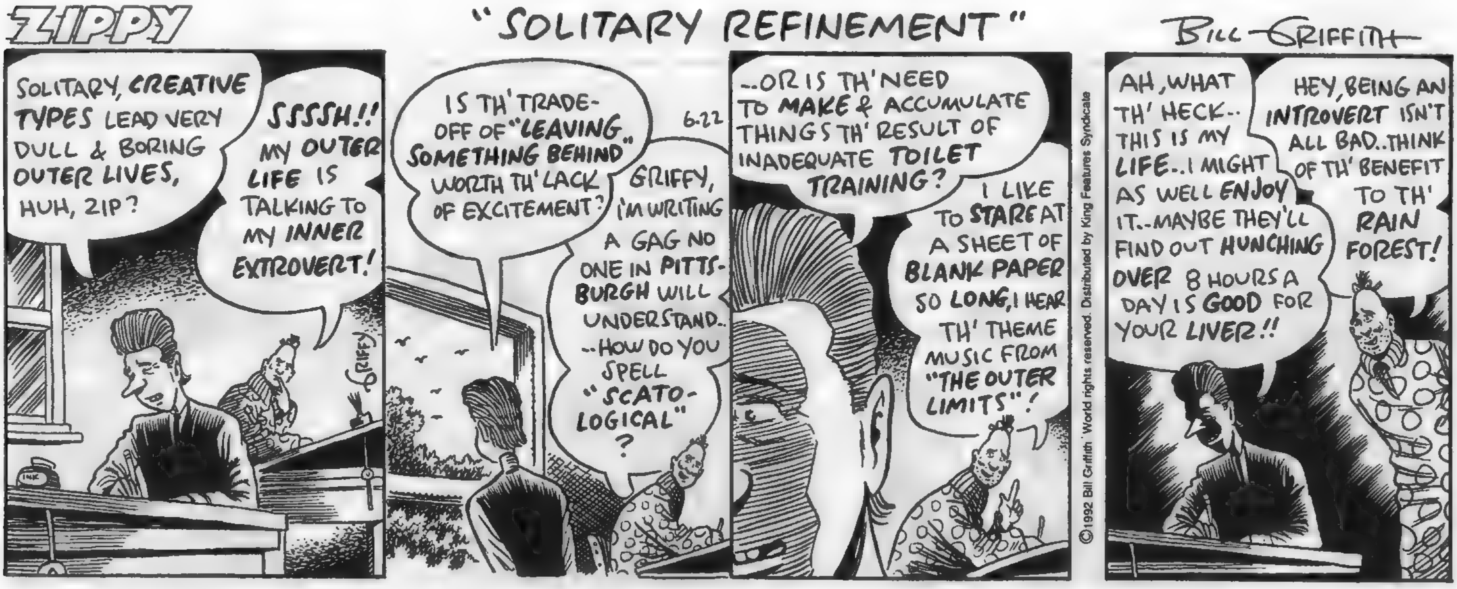
THERE'S KNOWLEDGE IN TH' FORESTS & STREAMS, ZIPPY-- --WE JUST HAVE TO TUNE INTO THINGS OTHER THAN TOM BROKAW FOR TH' "NEWS"--
YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M PICKING UP A VINTAGE "PETTICOAT JUNCTION" ON THIS ANCIENT REDWOOD!!


ZIPPY
"SOLITARY REFINEMENT"
BILL GRIFFITH
SOLITARY, CREATIVE TYPES LEAD VERY DULL & BORING OUTER LIVES, HUH, ZIP?
SSSSH!! MY OUTER LIFE IS TALKING TO MY INNER EXTROVERT!
INK
GRIFFY
IS TH' TRADE-OFF OF "LEAVING SOMETHING BEHIND" WORTH TH' LACK OF EXCITEMENT?
6-22
GRIFFY, I'M WRITING A GAG NO ONE IN PITTSBURGH WILL UNDERSTAND.. ..HOW DO YOU SPELL "SCATOLOGICAL"?
..OR IS TH' NEED TO MAKE & ACCUMULATE THINGS TH' RESULT OF INADEQUATE TOILET TRAINING?
I LIKE TO STARE AT A SHEET OF BLANK PAPER SO LONG, I HEAR TH' THEME MUSIC FROM "THE OUTER LIMITS"!
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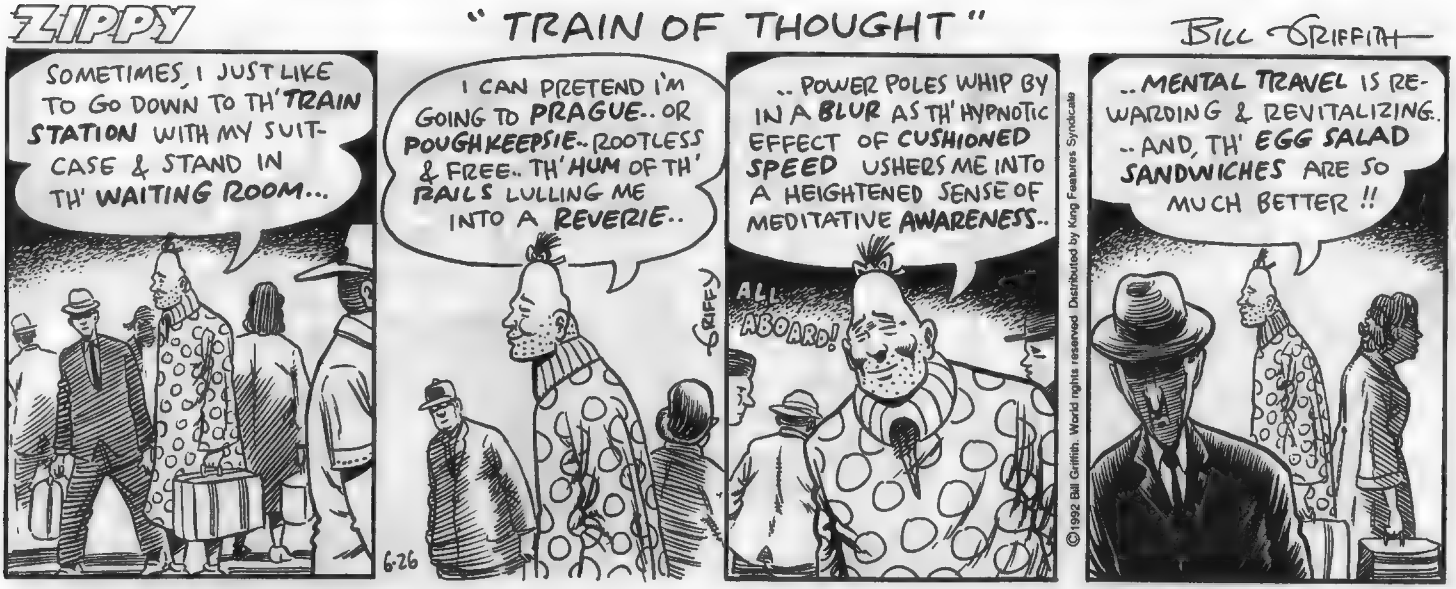
AH, WHAT TH' HECK.. THIS IS MY LIFE.. I MIGHT AS WELL ENJOY IT.. MAYBE THEY'LL FIND OUT HUNCHING OVER 8 HOURS A DAY IS GOOD FOR YOUR LIVER!!
HEY, BEING AN INTROVERT ISN'T ALL BAD.. THINK OF TH' BENEFIT TO TH' RAIN FOREST!


ZIPPY
"TRAIN OF THOUGHT"
BILL GRIFFITH
SOMETIMES, I JUST LIKE TO GO DOWN TO TH' TRAIN STATION WITH MY SUITCASE & STAND IN TH' WAITING ROOM...
6-26
I CAN PRETEND I'M GOING TO PRAGUE.. OR POUGHKEEPSIE.. ROOTLESS & FREE.. TH' HUM OF TH' RAILS LULLING ME INTO A REVERIE..
GRIFFY
.. POWER POLES WHIP BY IN A BLUR AS TH' HYPNOTIC EFFECT OF CUSHIONED SPEED USHERS ME INTO A HEIGHTENED SENSE OF MEDITATIVE AWARENESS..
ALL ABOARD!
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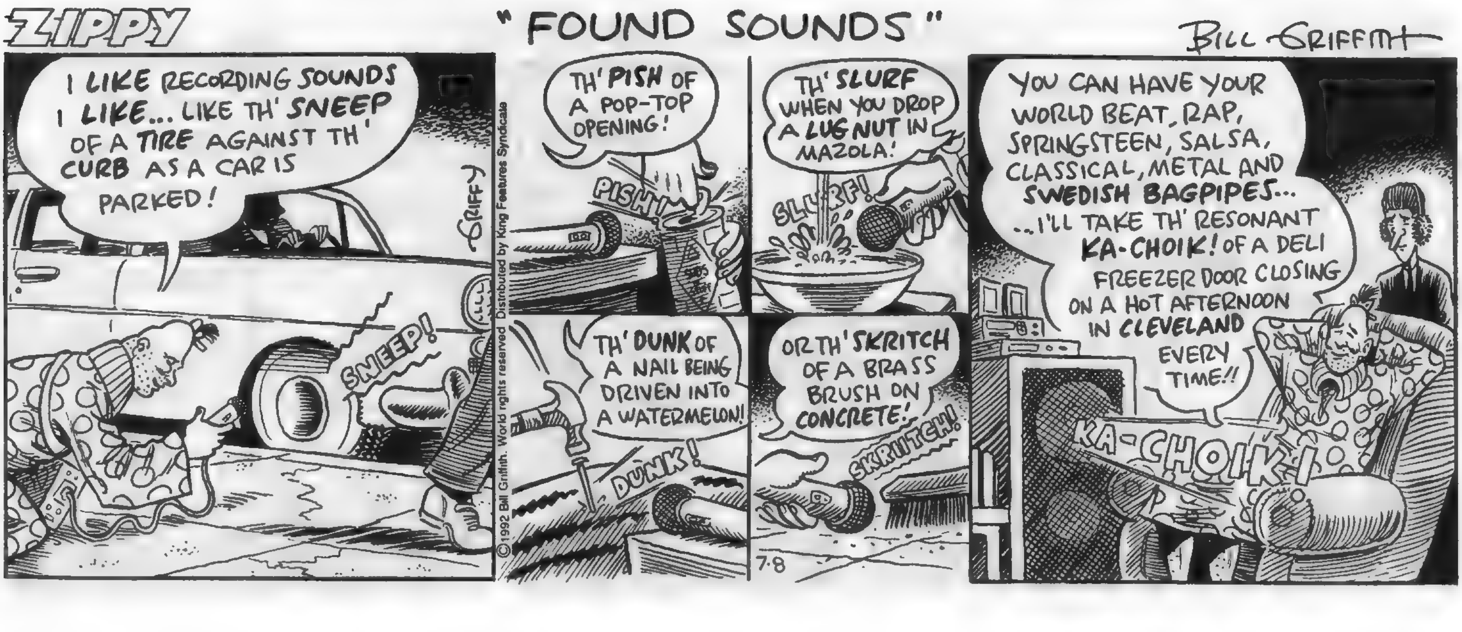
..MENTAL TRAVEL IS REWARDING & REVITALIZING.. ..AND, TH' EGG SALAD SANDWICHES ARE SO MUCH BETTER!!


ZIPPY
"FOUND SOUNDS"
BILL GRIFFITH
I LIKE RECORDING SOUNDS I LIKE... LIKE TH' SNEEP OF A TIRE AGAINST TH' CURB AS A CAR IS PARKED!
SNEEP!
GRIFFY
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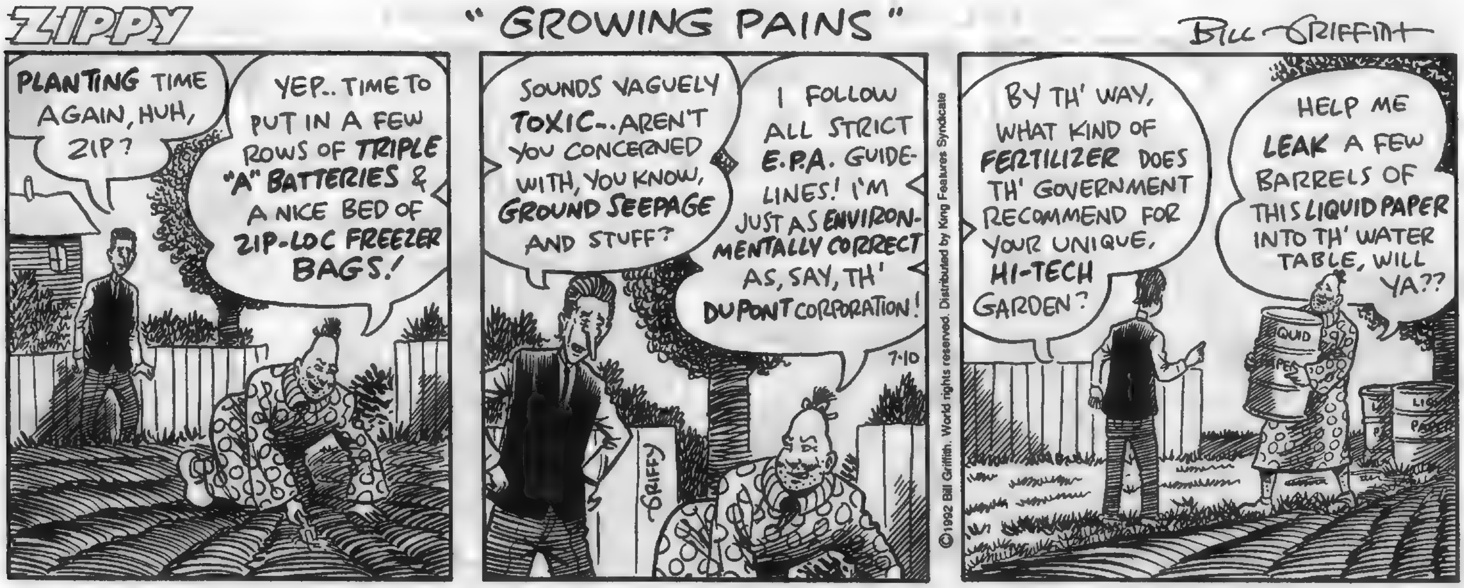
TH' PISH OF A POP-TOP OPENING!
PISH!
TH' SLURF WHEN YOU DROP A LUG NUT IN MAZOLA!
SLURF!
TH' DUNK OF A NAIL BEING DRIVEN INTO A WATERMELON!
DUNK!
OR TH' SKRITCH OF A BRASS BRUSH ON CONCRETE!
SKRITCH!
7-8
YOU CAN HAVE YOUR WORLD BEAT, RAP, SPRINGSTEEN, SALSA, CLASSICAL, METAL AND SWEDISH BAGPIPES... ..I'LL TAKE TH' RESONANT KA-CHOIK! OF A DELI FREEZER DOOR CLOSING ON A HOT AFTERNOON IN CLEVELAND EVERY TIME!!
KA-CHOIK!


ZIPPY
"GROWING PAINS"
BILL GRIFFITH
PLANTING TIME AGAIN, HUH, ZIP?
YEP.. TIME TO PUT IN A FEW ROWS OF TRIPLE "A" BATTERIES & A NICE BED OF ZIP-LOC FREEZER BAGS!
SOUNDS VAGUELY TOXIC.. AREN'T YOU CONCERNED WITH, YOU KNOW, GROUND SEEPAGE AND STUFF?
I FOLLOW ALL STRICT E.P.A. GUIDELINES! I'M JUST AS ENVIRONMENTALLY CORRECT AS, SAY, TH' DUPONT CORPORATION!
GRIFFY
7-10
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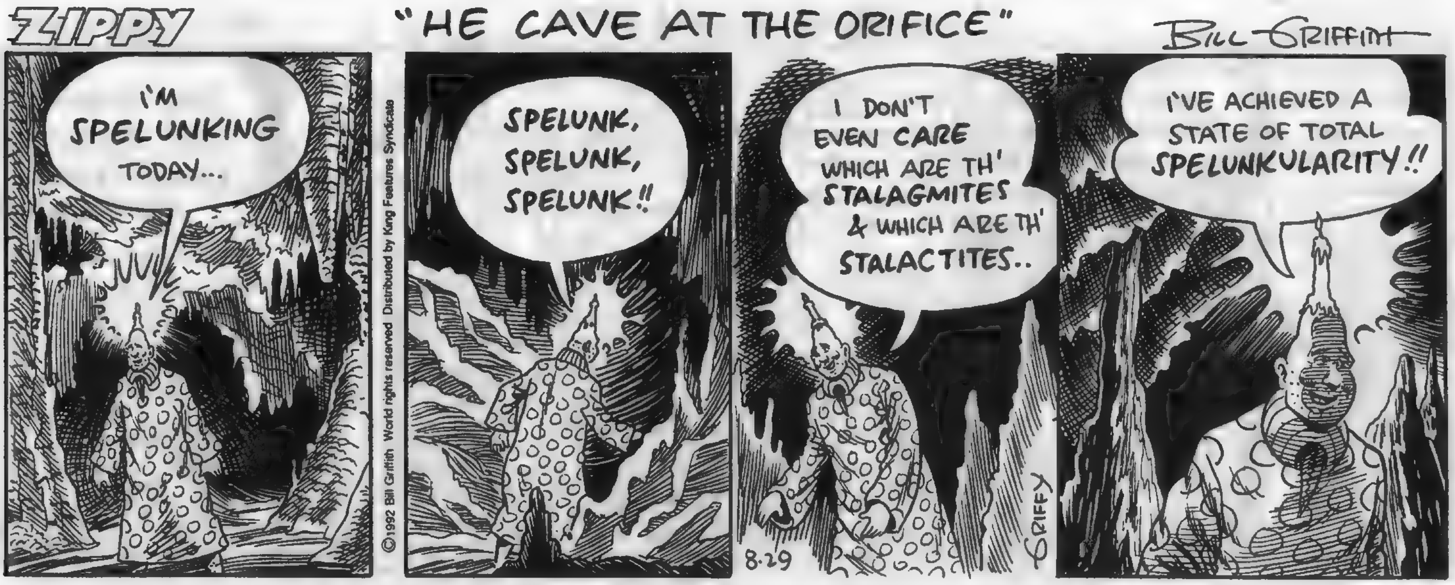
BY TH' WAY, WHAT KIND OF FERTILIZER DOES TH' GOVERNMENT RECOMMEND FOR YOUR UNIQUE, HI-TECH GARDEN?
HELP ME LEAK A FEW BARRELS OF THIS LIQUID PAPER INTO TH' WATER TABLE, WILL YA??
LIQUID PAPER
LIQUID PAPER


ZIPPY
"HE CAVE AT THE ORIFICE"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M SPELUNKING TODAY...
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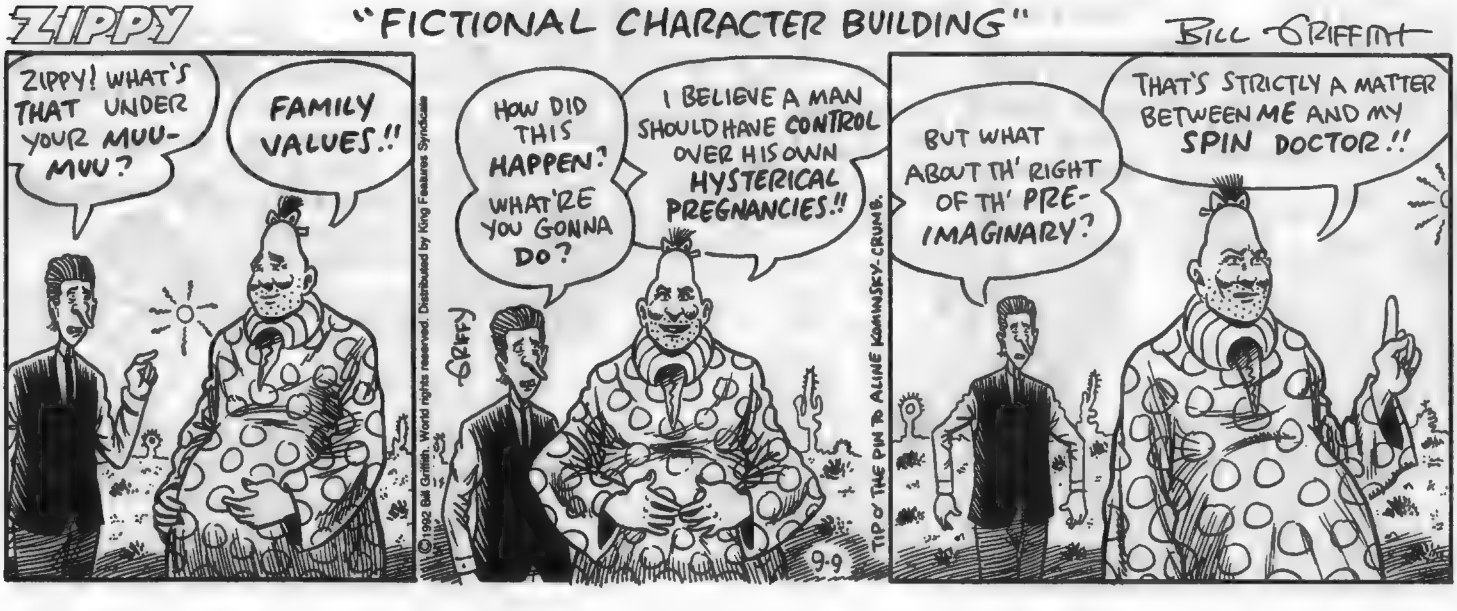
SPELUNK, SPELUNK, SPELUNK!!
I DON'T EVEN CARE WHICH ARE TH' STALAGMITES & WHICH ARE TH' STALACTITES..
8-29
GRIFFY
I'VE ACHIEVED A STATE OF TOTAL SPELUNKULARITY!!


ZIPPY
"FICTIONAL CHARACTER BUILDING"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY! WHAT'S THAT UNDER YOUR MUU-MUU?
FAMILY VALUES!!
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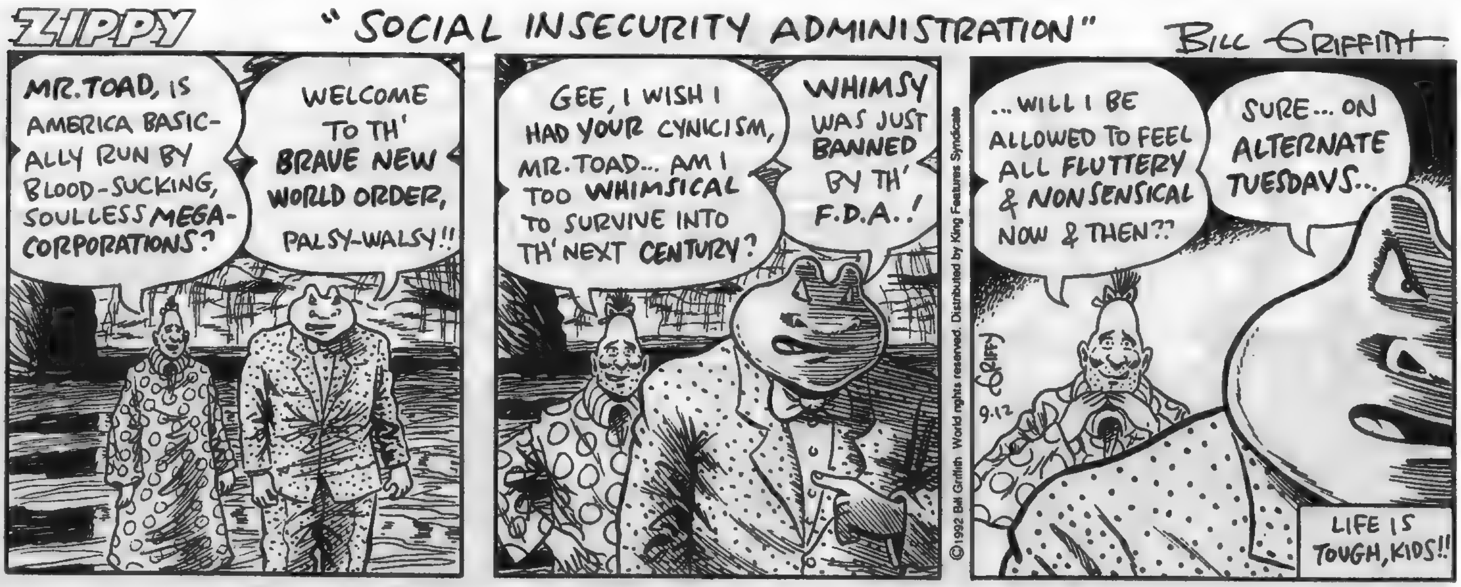
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?
I BELIEVE A MAN SHOULD HAVE CONTROL OVER HIS OWN HYSTERICAL PREGNANCIES!!
GRIFFY
9-9
TIP O' THE PIN TO ALINE KOMINSKY-CRUMB.
BUT WHAT ABOUT TH' RIGHT OF TH' PRE-IMAGINARY?
THAT'S STRICTLY A MATTER BETWEEN ME AND MY SPIN DOCTOR!!


ZIPPY
"SOCIAL INSECURITY ADMINISTRATION"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD, IS AMERICA BASICALLY RUN BY BLOOD-SUCKING, SOULLESS MEGA-CORPORATIONS?
WELCOME TO TH' BRAVE NEW WORLD ORDER, PALSY-WALSY!!
GEE, I WISH I HAD YOUR CYNICISM, MR. TOAD... AM I TOO WHIMSICAL TO SURVIVE INTO TH' NEXT CENTURY?
WHIMSY WAS JUST BANNED BY TH' F.D.A.!
GRIFFY
9.12
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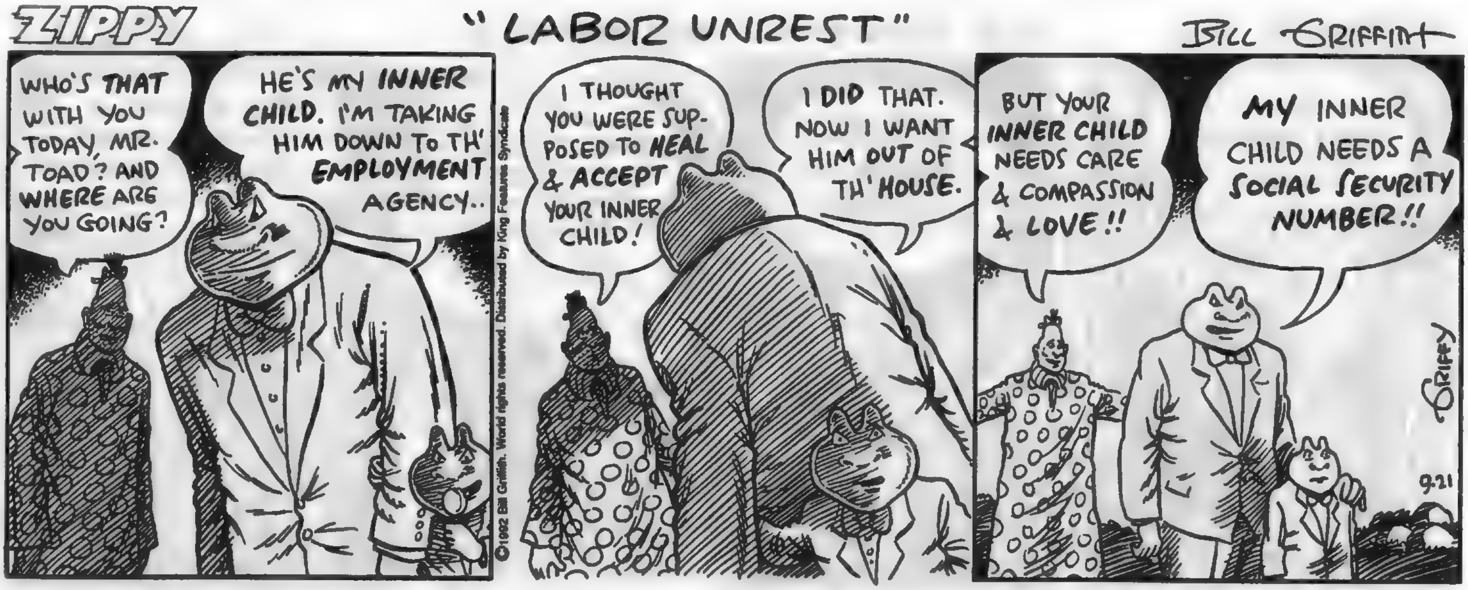
...WILL I BE ALLOWED TO FEEL ALL FLUTTERY & NONSENSICAL NOW & THEN??
SURE... ON ALTERNATE TUESDAYS...
LIFE IS TOUGH, KIDS!!


ZIPPY
"LABOR UNREST"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHO'S THAT WITH YOU TODAY, MR. TOAD? AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HE'S MY INNER CHILD. I'M TAKING HIM DOWN TO TH' EMPLOYMENT AGENCY..
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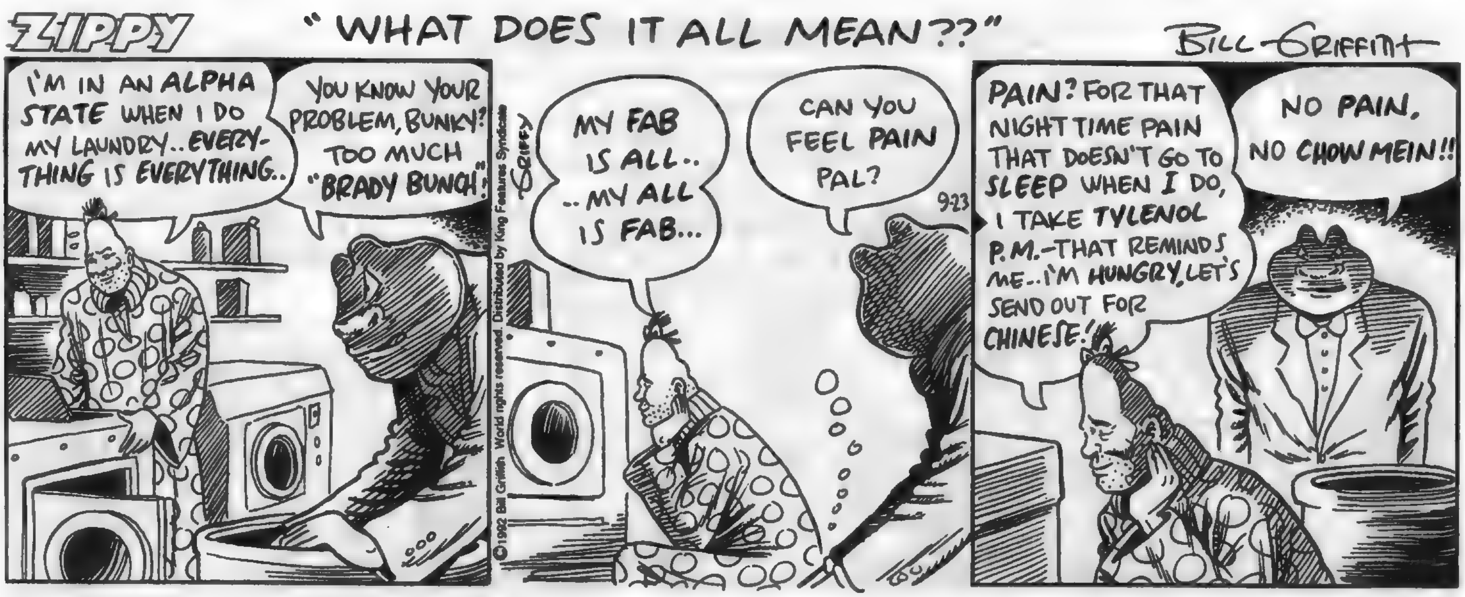
I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO HEAL & ACCEPT YOUR INNER CHILD!
I DID THAT. NOW I WANT HIM OUT OF TH' HOUSE.
BUT YOUR INNER CHILD NEEDS CARE & COMPASSION & LOVE!!
MY INNER CHILD NEEDS A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER!!
GRIFFY
9.21


ZIPPY
"WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN??"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M IN AN ALPHA STATE WHEN I DO MY LAUNDRY.. EVERYTHING IS EVERYTHING..
YOU KNOW YOUR PROBLEM, BUNKY? TOO MUCH "BRADY BUNCH"!
GRIFFY
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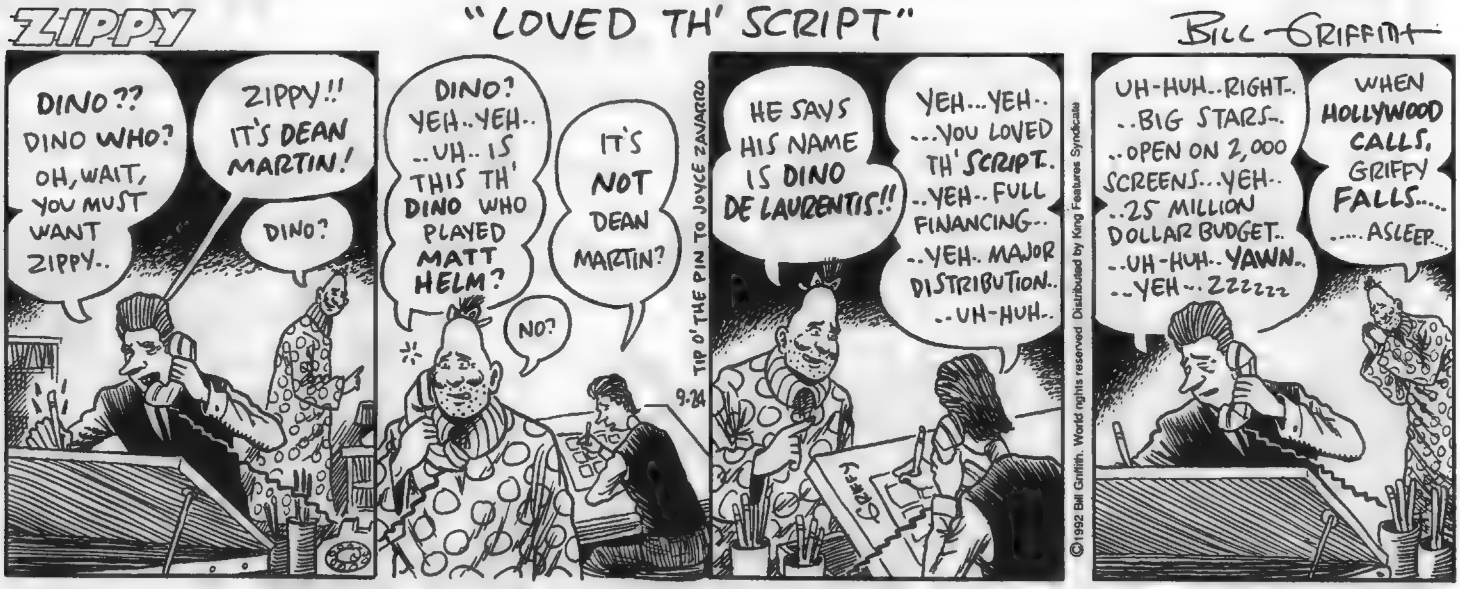
MY FAB IS ALL.. ..MY ALL IS FAB...
CAN YOU FEEL PAIN PAL?
9.23
PAIN? FOR THAT NIGHT TIME PAIN THAT DOESN'T GO TO SLEEP WHEN I DO, I TAKE TYLENOL P.M.–THAT REMINDS ME.. I'M HUNGRY, LET'S SEND OUT FOR CHINESE!
NO PAIN, NO CHOW MEIN!!


ZIPPY
"LOVED TH' SCRIPT"
BILL GRIFFITH
DINO?? DINO WHO? OH, WAIT, YOU MUST WANT ZIPPY..
ZIPPY!! IT'S DEAN MARTIN!
DINO?
DINO? YEH..YEH.. ..UH.. IS THIS TH' DINO WHO PLAYED MATT HELM?
IT'S NOT DEAN MARTIN?
NO?
TIP O' THE PIN TO JOYCE ZAVARRO
9-24
HE SAYS HIS NAME IS DINO DE LAURENTIS!!
YEH...YEH.. ...YOU LOVED TH' SCRIPT.. ..YEH..FULL FINANCING.. ..YEH..MAJOR DISTRIBUTION.. ..UH-HUH..
GRIFFY
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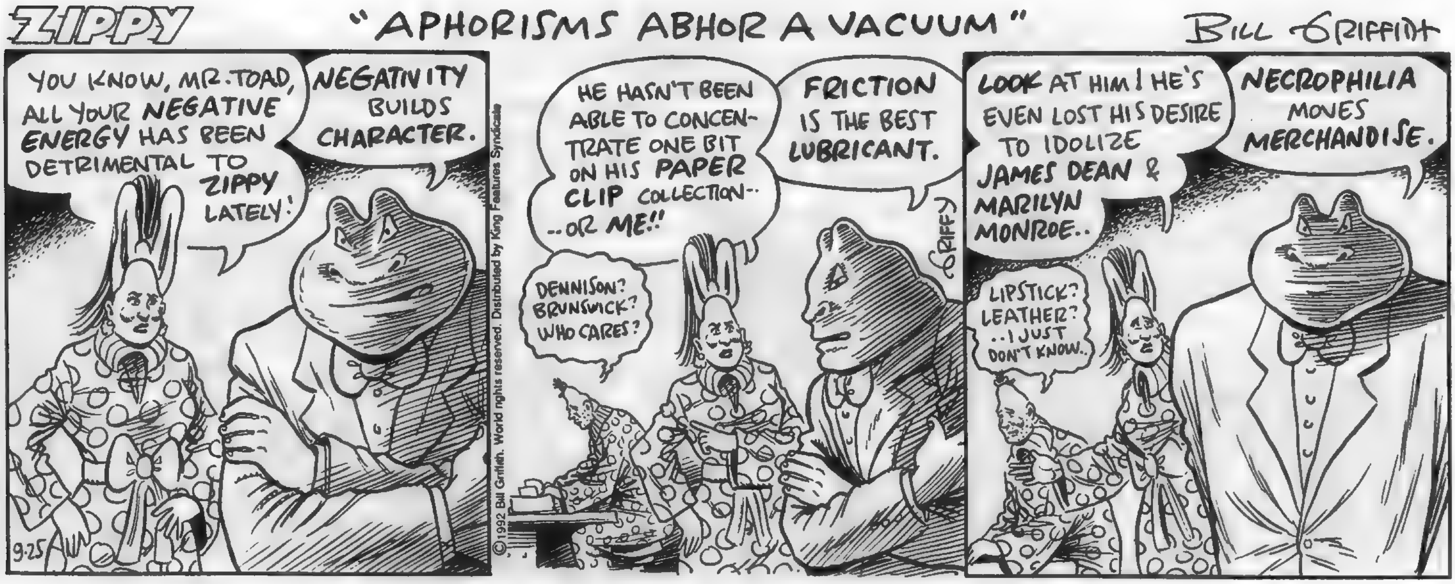
UH-HUH..RIGHT.. ..BIG STARS.. ..OPEN ON 2,000 SCREENS...YEH.. ..25 MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET.. ..UH-HUH..YAWN.. ..YEH...ZZZZZZ
WHEN HOLLYWOOD CALLS, GRIFFY FALLS..... .....ASLEEP...


ZIPPY
"APHORISMS ABHOR A VACUUM"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW, MR. TOAD, ALL YOUR NEGATIVE ENERGY HAS BEEN DETRIMENTAL TO ZIPPY LATELY!
NEGATIVITY BUILDS CHARACTER.
9-25
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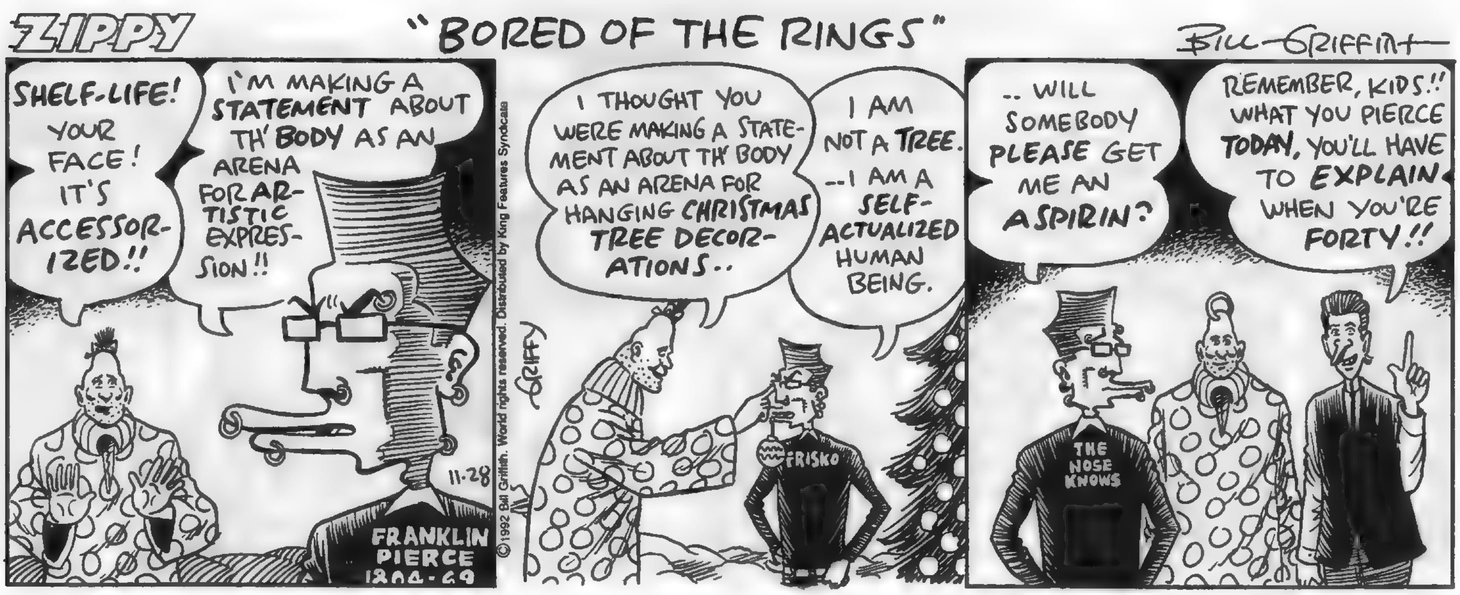
HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ONE BIT ON HIS PAPER CLIP COLLECTION.. ..OR ME!!
FRICTION IS THE BEST LUBRICANT.
DENNISON? BRUNSWICK? WHO CARES?
GRIFFY
LOOK AT HIM! HE'S EVEN LOST HIS DESIRE TO IDOLIZE JAMES DEAN & MARILYN MONROE..
NECROPHILIA MOVES MERCHANDISE.
LIPSTICK? LEATHER? ..I JUST DON'T KNOW..


ZIPPY
"BORED OF THE RINGS"
BILL GRIFFITH
SHELF-LIFE! YOUR FACE! IT'S ACCESSORIZED!!
I'M MAKING A STATEMENT ABOUT TH' BODY AS AN ARENA FOR ARTISTIC EXPRESSION!!
FRANKLIN PIERCE 1804-69
11-28
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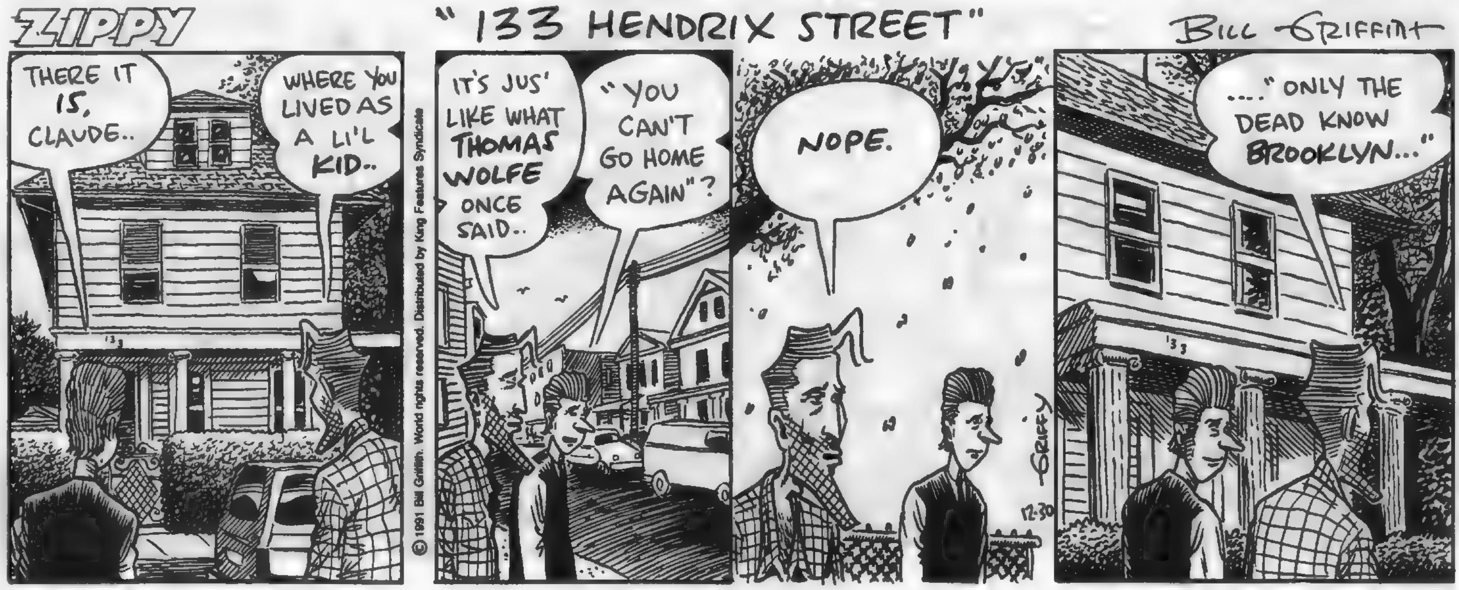
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAKING A STATEMENT ABOUT TH' BODY AS AN ARENA FOR HANGING CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS..
I AM NOT A TREE. --I AM A SELF-ACTUALIZED HUMAN BEING.
GRIFFY
FRISKO
.. WILL SOMEBODY PLEASE GET ME AN ASPIRIN?
REMEMBER, KIDS!! WHAT YOU PIERCE TODAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHEN YOU'RE FORTY!!
THE NOSE KNOWS

THE PIN WITHIN


ZIPPY
"133 HENDRIX STREET"
Bill Griffith
THERE IT IS, CLAUDE..
WHERE YOU LIVED AS A LI'L KID..
133
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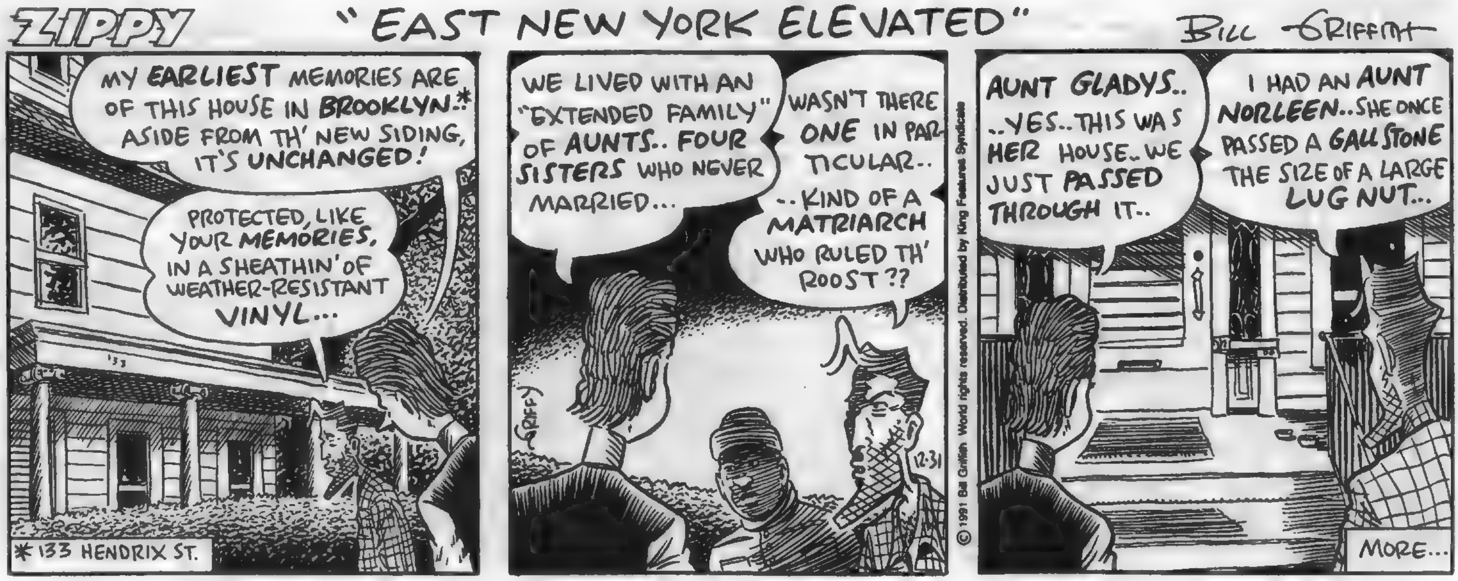
IT'S JUS' LIKE WHAT THOMAS WOLFE ONCE SAID..
"YOU CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN"?
NOPE.
GRIFFY
12-30
...."ONLY THE DEAD KNOW BROOKLYN..."
133


ZIPPY
"EAST NEW YORK ELEVATED"
Bill Griffith
MY EARLIEST MEMORIES ARE OF THIS HOUSE IN BROOKLYN.* ASIDE FROM TH' NEW SIDING, IT'S UNCHANGED!
PROTECTED, LIKE YOUR MEMORIES, IN A SHEATHIN' OF WEATHER-RESISTANT VINYL...
133
*133 HENDRIX ST.
WE LIVED WITH AN "EXTENDED FAMILY" OF AUNTS.. FOUR SISTERS WHO NEVER MARRIED...
WASN'T THERE ONE IN PARTICULAR.. ..KIND OF A MATRIARCH WHO RULED TH' ROOST??
GRIFFY
12-31
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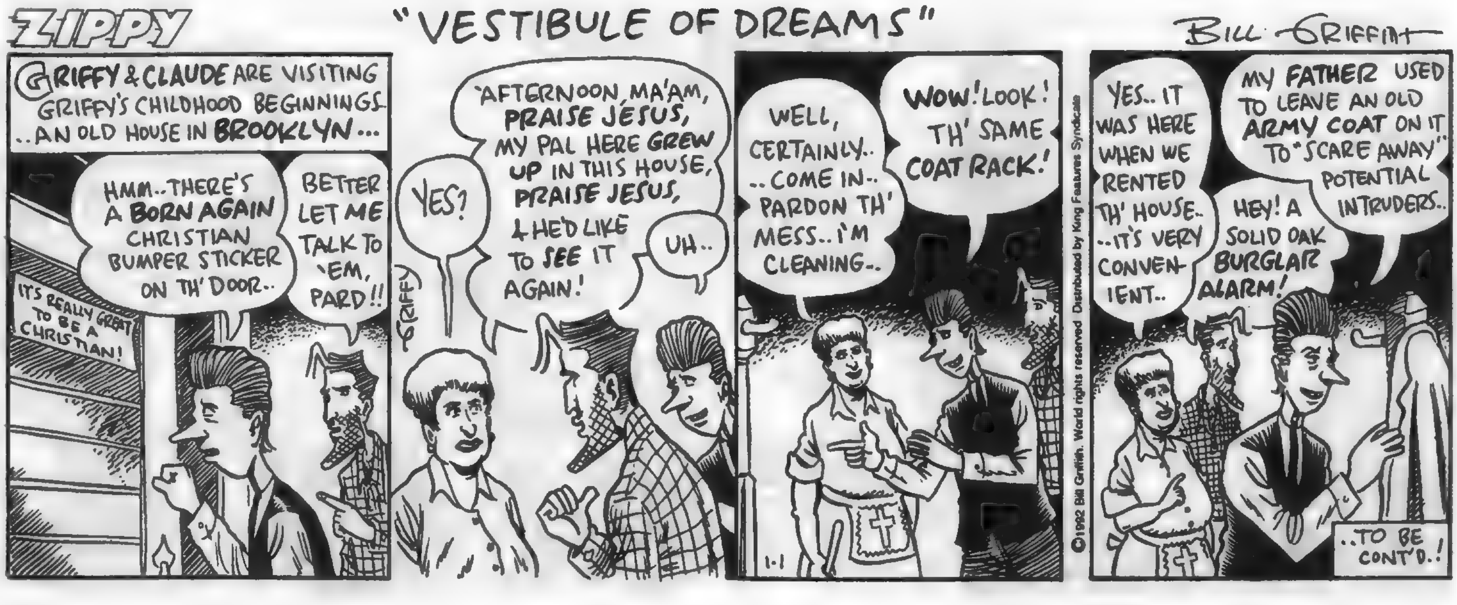
AUNT GLADYS.. ..YES.. THIS WAS HER HOUSE.. WE JUST PASSED THROUGH IT..
I HAD AN AUNT NORLEEN.. SHE ONCE PASSED A GALLSTONE THE SIZE OF A LARGE LUG NUT...
MORE...


ZIPPY
"VESTIBULE OF DREAMS"
Bill Griffith
GRIFFY & CLAUDE ARE VISITING GRIFFY'S CHILDHOOD BEGINNINGS.. AN OLD HOUSE IN BROOKLYN...
HMM.. THERE'S A BORN AGAIN CHRISTIAN BUMPER STICKER ON TH' DOOR..
BETTER LET ME TALK TO 'EM, PARD!!
IT'S REALLY GREAT TO BE A CHRISTIAN!
YES?
GRIFFY
'AFTERNOON, MA'AM, PRAISE JESUS, MY PAL HERE GREW UP IN THIS HOUSE, PRAISE JESUS, & HE'D LIKE TO SEE IT AGAIN!
UH..
WELL, CERTAINLY.. ..COME IN.. PARDON TH' MESS.. I'M CLEANING..
WOW! LOOK! TH' SAME COAT RACK!
1-1
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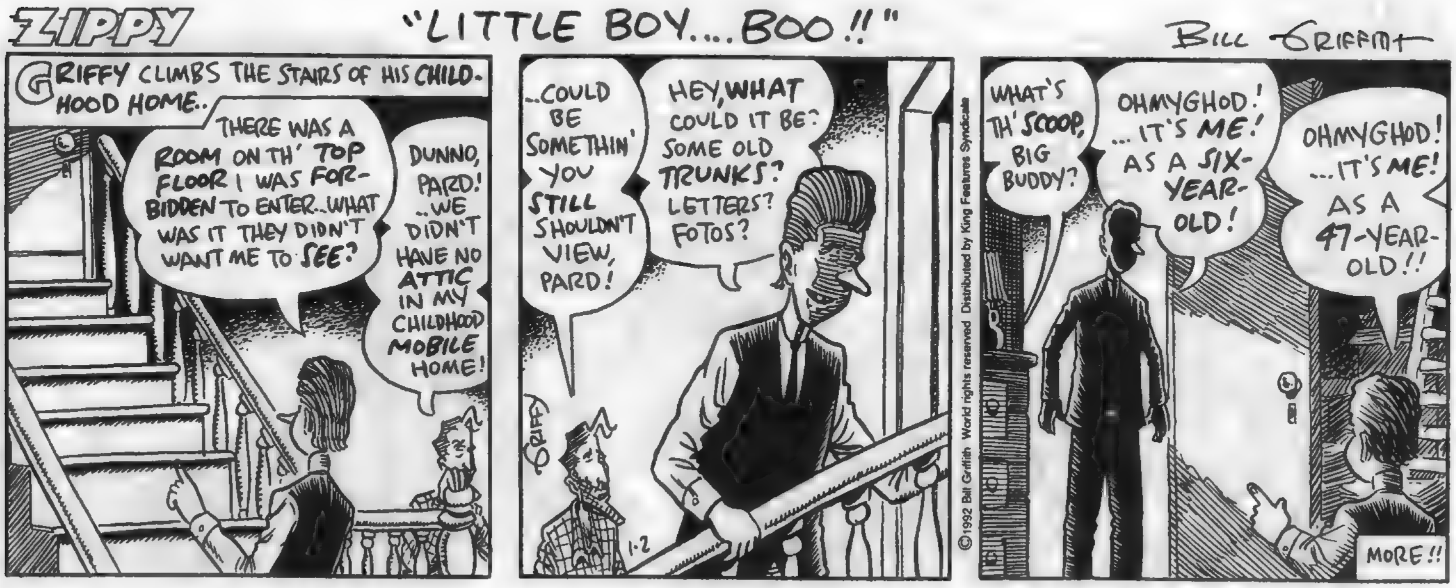
YES.. IT WAS HERE WHEN WE RENTED TH' HOUSE.. ..IT'S VERY CONVENIENT..
MY FATHER USED TO LEAVE AN OLD ARMY COAT ON IT TO "SCARE AWAY" POTENTIAL INTRUDERS..
HEY! A SOLID OAK BURGLAR ALARM!
..TO BE CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"LITTLE BOY....BOO!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY CLIMBS THE STAIRS OF HIS CHILDHOOD HOME..
THERE WAS A ROOM ON TH' TOP FLOOR I WAS FORBIDDEN TO ENTER..WHAT WAS IT THEY DIDN'T WANT ME TO SEE?
DUNNO, PARD! ..WE DIDN'T HAVE NO ATTIC IN MY CHILDHOOD MOBILE HOME!
..COULD BE SOMETHIN' YOU STILL SHOULDN'T VIEW, PARD!
HEY, WHAT COULD IT BE? SOME OLD TRUNKS? LETTERS? FOTOS?
GRIFFY
1-2
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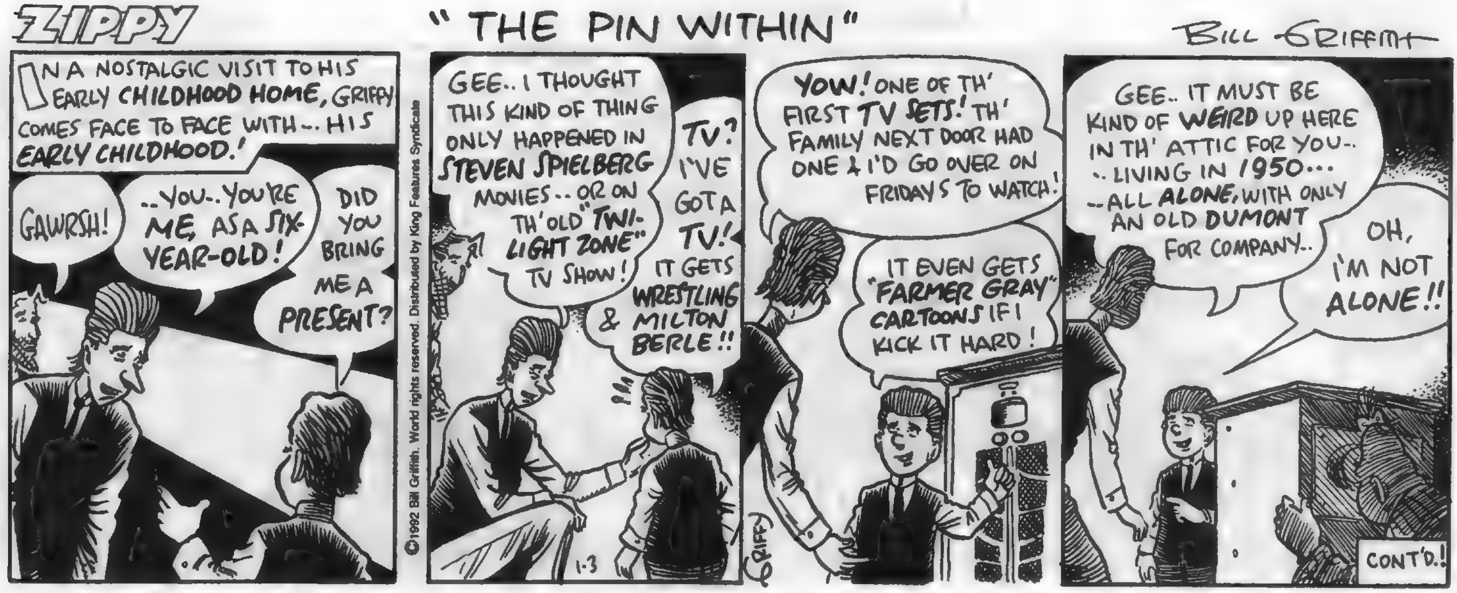
WHAT'S TH' SCOOP, BIG BUDDY?
OHMYGHOD! ...IT'S ME! AS A SIX-YEAR-OLD!
OHMYGHOD! ...IT'S ME! AS A 47-YEAR-OLD!!
MORE!!


ZIPPY
"THE PIN WITHIN"
BILL GRIFFITH
IN A NOSTALGIC VISIT TO HIS EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME, GRIFFY COMES FACE TO FACE WITH -- HIS EARLY CHILDHOOD!
GAWRSH!
..YOU..YOU'RE ME, AS A SIX-YEAR-OLD!
DID YOU BRING ME A PRESENT?
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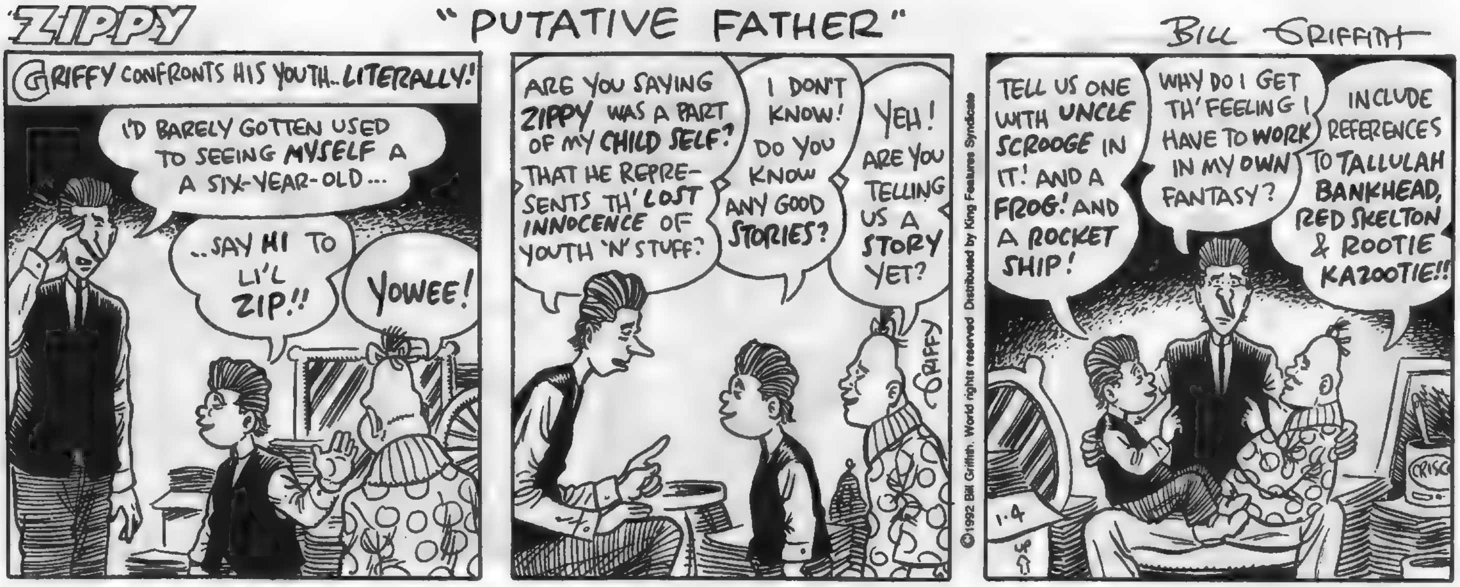
GEE.. I THOUGHT THIS KIND OF THING ONLY HAPPENED IN STEVEN SPIELBERG MOVIES -- OR ON TH' OLD "TWILIGHT ZONE" TV SHOW!
TV? I'VE GOT A TV! IT GETS WRESTLING & MILTON BERLE!!
1-3
GRIFFY
YOW! ONE OF TH' FIRST TV SETS! TH' FAMILY NEXT DOOR HAD ONE & I'D GO OVER ON FRIDAYS TO WATCH!
IT EVEN GETS "FARMER GRAY" CARTOONS IF I KICK IT HARD!
GEE.. IT MUST BE KIND OF WEIRD UP HERE IN TH' ATTIC FOR YOU.. -- LIVING IN 1950... --ALL ALONE, WITH ONLY AN OLD DUMONT FOR COMPANY..
OH, I'M NOT ALONE!!
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"PUTATIVE FATHER"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY CONFRONTS HIS YOUTH..LITERALLY!
I'D BARELY GOTTEN USED TO SEEING MYSELF A A SIX-YEAR-OLD...
..SAY HI TO LI'L ZIP!!
YOWEE!
ARE YOU SAYING ZIPPY WAS A PART OF MY CHILD SELF? THAT HE REPRESENTS TH' LOST INNOCENCE OF YOUTH 'N' STUFF?
I DON'T KNOW! DO YOU KNOW ANY GOOD STORIES?
YEH! ARE YOU TELLING US A STORY YET?
GRIFFY
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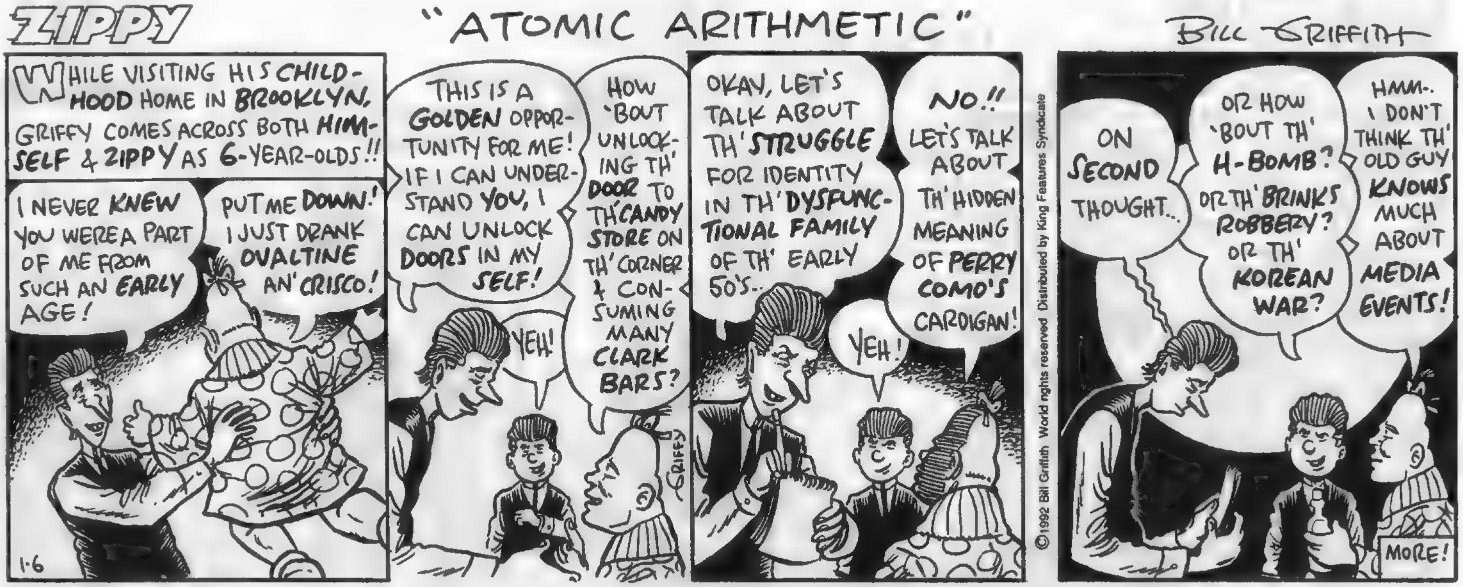
TELL US ONE WITH UNCLE SCROOGE IN IT! AND A FROG! AND A ROCKET SHIP!
WHY DO I GET TH' FEELING I HAVE TO WORK IN MY OWN FANTASY?
INCLUDE REFERENCES TO TALLULAH BANKHEAD, RED SKELTON & ROOTIE KAZOOTIE!!
1-4
UP
CRISCO


ZIPPY
"ATOMIC ARITHMETIC"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHILE VISITING HIS CHILDHOOD HOME IN BROOKLYN, GRIFFY COMES ACROSS BOTH HIMSELF & ZIPPY AS 6-YEAR-OLDS!!
I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE A PART OF ME FROM SUCH AN EARLY AGE!
PUT ME DOWN! I JUST DRANK OVALTINE AN' CRISCO!
1·6
THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME! IF I CAN UNDERSTAND YOU, I CAN UNLOCK DOORS IN MY SELF!
HOW 'BOUT UNLOCKING TH' DOOR TO TH' CANDY STORE ON TH' CORNER & CONSUMING MANY CLARK BARS?
YEH!
GRIFFY
OKAY, LET'S TALK ABOUT TH' STRUGGLE FOR IDENTITY IN TH' DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY OF TH' EARLY 50'S..
NO!! LET'S TALK ABOUT TH' HIDDEN MEANING OF PERRY COMO'S CARDIGAN!
YEH!
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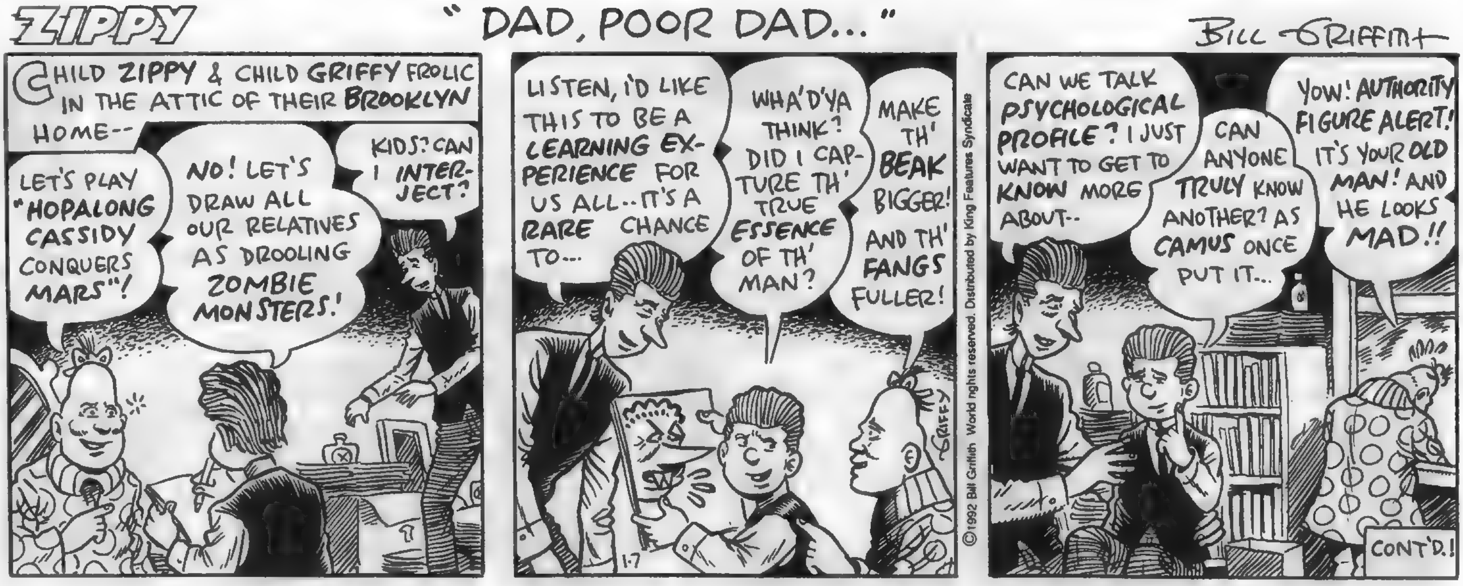
ON SECOND THOUGHT..
OR HOW 'BOUT TH' H-BOMB? OR TH' BRINK'S ROBBERY? OR TH' KOREAN WAR?
HMM.. I DON'T THINK TH' OLD GUY KNOWS MUCH ABOUT MEDIA EVENTS!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"DAD, POOR DAD..."
BILL GRIFFITH
CHILD ZIPPY & CHILD GRIFFY FROLIC IN THE ATTIC OF THEIR BROOKLYN HOME--
LET'S PLAY "HOPALONG CASSIDY CONQUERS MARS"!
NO! LET'S DRAW ALL OUR RELATIVES AS DROOLING ZOMBIE MONSTERS!
KIDS? CAN I INTERJECT?
LISTEN, I'D LIKE THIS TO BE A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR US ALL.. IT'S A RARE CHANCE TO...
WHA'D'YA THINK? DID I CAPTURE TH' TRUE ESSENCE OF TH' MAN?
MAKE TH' BEAK BIGGER! AND TH' FANGS FULLER!
GRIFFY
1·7
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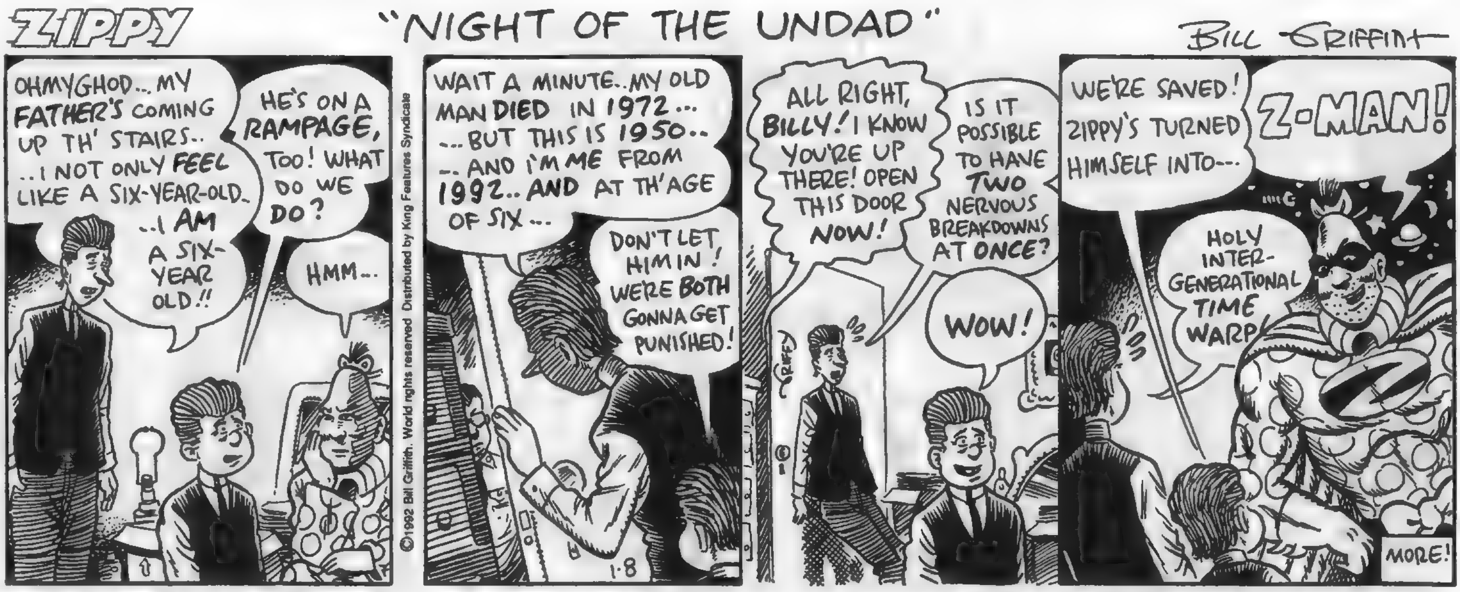
CAN WE TALK PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILE? I JUST WANT TO GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT--
CAN ANYONE TRULY KNOW ANOTHER? AS CAMUS ONCE PUT IT...
YOW! AUTHORITY FIGURE ALERT! IT'S YOUR OLD MAN! AND HE LOOKS MAD!!
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"NIGHT OF THE UNDAD"
BILL GRIFFITH
OHMYGHOD... MY FATHER'S COMING UP TH' STAIRS.. ..I NOT ONLY FEEL LIKE A SIX-YEAR-OLD.. ..I AM A SIX-YEAR OLD!!
HE'S ON A RAMPAGE, TOO! WHAT DO WE DO?
HMM...
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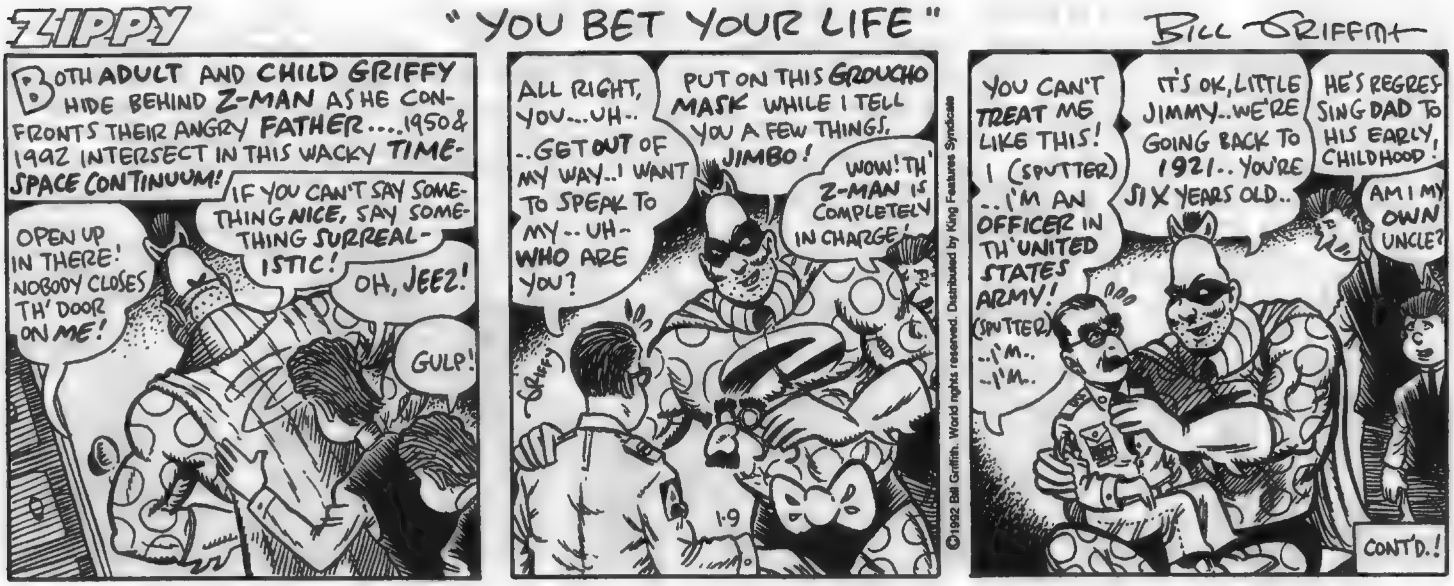
WAIT A MINUTE.. MY OLD MAN DIED IN 1972... ...BUT THIS IS 1950.. ..AND I'M ME FROM 1992.. AND AT TH' AGE OF SIX...
DON'T LET HIM IN! WE'RE BOTH GONNA GET PUNISHED!
1·8
ALL RIGHT, BILLY! I KNOW YOU'RE UP THERE! OPEN THIS DOOR NOW!
IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE TWO NERVOUS BREAKDOWNS AT ONCE?
WOW!
GRIFFY
WE'RE SAVED! ZIPPY'S TURNED HIMSELF INTO---
Z-MAN!
HOLY INTER-GENERATIONAL TIME WARP!
MORE!


ZIPPY
"YOU BET YOUR LIFE"
BILL GRIFFITH
BOTH ADULT AND CHILD GRIFFY HIDE BEHIND Z-MAN AS HE CONFRONTS THEIR ANGRY FATHER....1950 & 1992 INTERSECT IN THIS WACKY TIME-SPACE CONTINUUM!
IF YOU CAN'T SAY SOMETHING NICE, SAY SOMETHING SURREALISTIC!
OPEN UP IN THERE! NOBODY CLOSES TH' DOOR ON ME!
OH, JEEZ!
GULP!
ALL RIGHT, YOU...UH.. ..GET OUT OF MY WAY..I WANT TO SPEAK TO MY..UH.. WHO ARE YOU?
PUT ON THIS GROUCHO MASK WHILE I TELL YOU A FEW THINGS, JIMBO!
WOW! TH' Z-MAN IS COMPLETELY IN CHARGE!
GRIFFY
1-9
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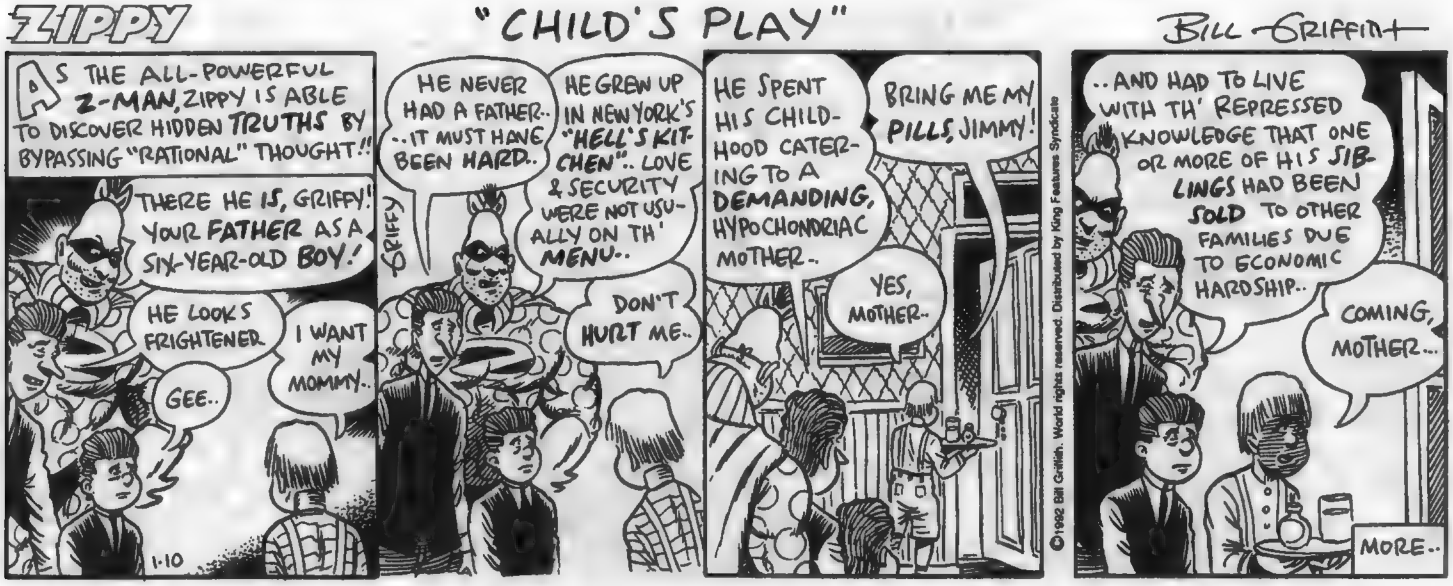
YOU CAN'T TREAT ME LIKE THIS! I (SPUTTER) ..I'M AN OFFICER IN TH' UNITED STATES ARMY! (SPUTTER) ..I'M.. ..I'M..
IT'S OK, LITTLE JIMMY..WE'RE GOING BACK TO 1921.. YOU'RE SIX YEARS OLD..
HE'S REGRESSING DAD TO HIS EARLY CHILDHOOD!
AM I MY OWN UNCLE?
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"CHILD'S PLAY"
BILL GRIFFITH
AS THE ALL-POWERFUL Z-MAN, ZIPPY IS ABLE TO DISCOVER HIDDEN TRUTHS BY BYPASSING "RATIONAL" THOUGHT!!
THERE HE IS, GRIFFY! YOUR FATHER AS A SIX-YEAR-OLD BOY!
HE LOOKS FRIGHTENED
I WANT MY MOMMY..
GEE..
1-10
HE NEVER HAD A FATHER.. ..IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD..
HE GREW UP IN NEW YORK'S "HELL'S KITCHEN".. LOVE & SECURITY WERE NOT USUALLY ON TH' MENU..
GRIFFY
DON'T HURT ME..
HE SPENT HIS CHILDHOOD CATERING TO A DEMANDING, HYPOCHONDRIAC MOTHER..
BRING ME MY PILLS, JIMMY!
YES, MOTHER..
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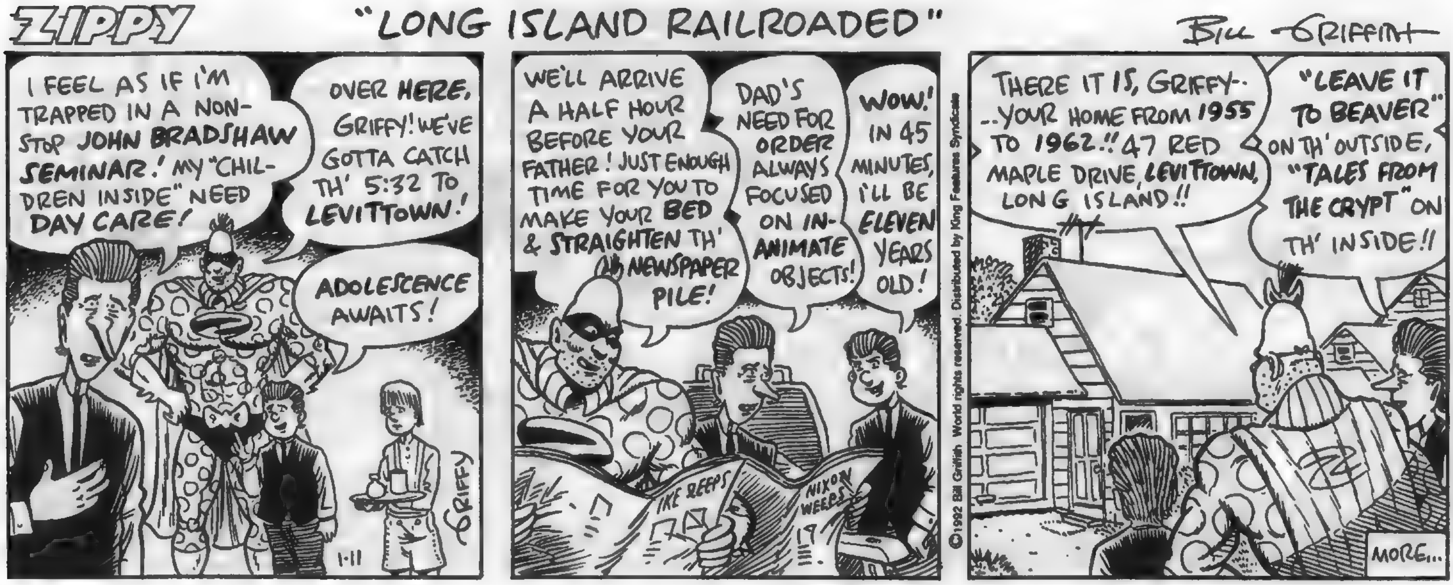
..AND HAD TO LIVE WITH TH' REPRESSED KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE OR MORE OF HIS SIBLINGS HAD BEEN SOLD TO OTHER FAMILIES DUE TO ECONOMIC HARDSHIP..
COMING, MOTHER...
MORE..


ZIPPY
"LONG ISLAND RAILROADED"
BILL GRIFFITH
I FEEL AS IF I'M TRAPPED IN A NON-STOP JOHN BRADSHAW SEMINAR! MY "CHILDREN INSIDE" NEED DAY CARE!
OVER HERE, GRIFFY! WE'VE GOTTA CATCH TH' 5:32 TO LEVITTOWN!
ADOLESCENCE AWAITS!
GRIFFY
1-11
WE'LL ARRIVE A HALF HOUR BEFORE YOUR FATHER! JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR BED & STRAIGHTEN TH' NEWSPAPER PILE!
DAD'S NEED FOR ORDER ALWAYS FOCUSED ON INANIMATE OBJECTS!
WOW! IN 45 MINUTES, I'LL BE ELEVEN YEARS OLD!
IKE BEEPS
NIXON WEEPS
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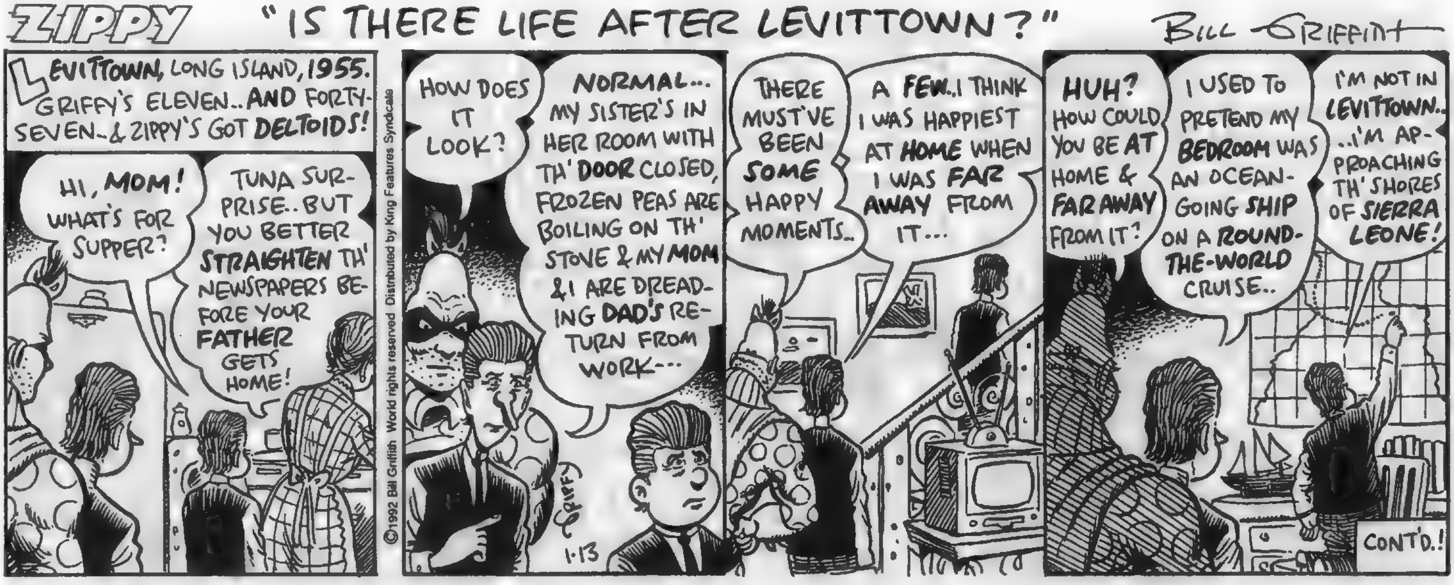
THERE IT IS, GRIFFY.. ..YOUR HOME FROM 1955 TO 1962!! 47 RED MAPLE DRIVE, LEVITTOWN, LONG ISLAND!!
"LEAVE IT TO BEAVER" ON TH' OUTSIDE, "TALES FROM THE CRYPT" ON TH' INSIDE!!
MORE...


ZIPPY
"IS THERE LIFE AFTER LEVITTOWN?"
BILL GRIFFITH
LEVITTOWN, LONG ISLAND, 1955. GRIFFY'S ELEVEN.. AND FORTY-SEVEN.. & ZIPPY'S GOT DELTOIDS!
HI, MOM! WHAT'S FOR SUPPER?
TUNA SURPRISE.. BUT YOU BETTER STRAIGHTEN TH' NEWSPAPERS BEFORE YOUR FATHER GETS HOME!
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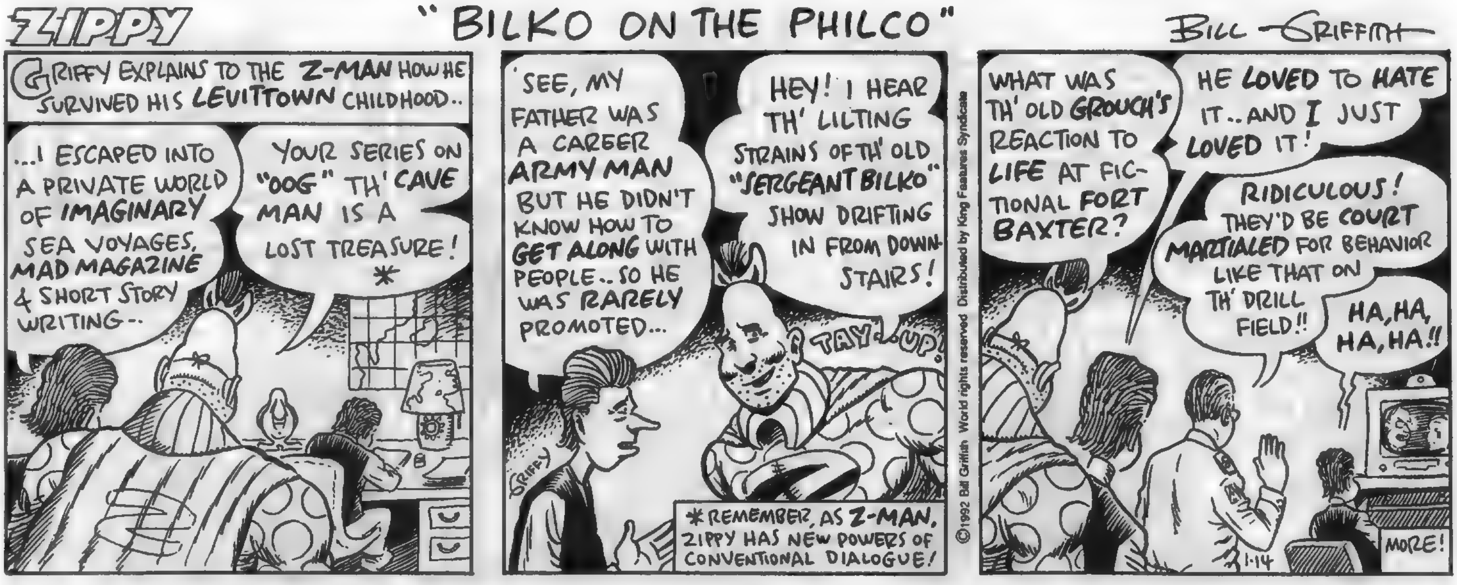
HOW DOES IT LOOK?
NORMAL... MY SISTER'S IN HER ROOM WITH TH' DOOR CLOSED, FROZEN PEAS ARE BOILING ON TH' STOVE & MY MOM & I ARE DREADING DAD'S RETURN FROM WORK---
GRIFFY
1·13
THERE MUST'VE BEEN SOME HAPPY MOMENTS..
A FEW.. I THINK I WAS HAPPIEST AT HOME WHEN I WAS FAR AWAY FROM IT...
HUH? HOW COULD YOU BE AT HOME & FAR AWAY FROM IT?
I USED TO PRETEND MY BEDROOM WAS AN OCEAN-GOING SHIP ON A ROUND-THE-WORLD CRUISE..
I'M NOT IN LEVITTOWN.. ..I'M APPROACHING TH' SHORES OF SIERRA LEONE!
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"BILKO ON THE PHILCO"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY EXPLAINS TO THE Z-MAN HOW HE SURVIVED HIS LEVITTOWN CHILDHOOD..
...I ESCAPED INTO A PRIVATE WORLD OF IMAGINARY SEA VOYAGES, MAD MAGAZINE & SHORT STORY WRITING..
YOUR SERIES ON "OOG" TH' CAVE MAN IS A LOST TREASURE! *
'SEE, MY FATHER WAS A CAREER ARMY MAN BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE.. SO HE WAS RARELY PROMOTED...
HEY! I HEAR TH' LILTING STRAINS OF TH' OLD "SERGEANT BILKO" SHOW DRIFTING IN FROM DOWNSTAIRS!
TAY-UP!
GRIFFY
*REMEMBER, AS Z-MAN, ZIPPY HAS NEW POWERS OF CONVENTIONAL DIALOGUE!
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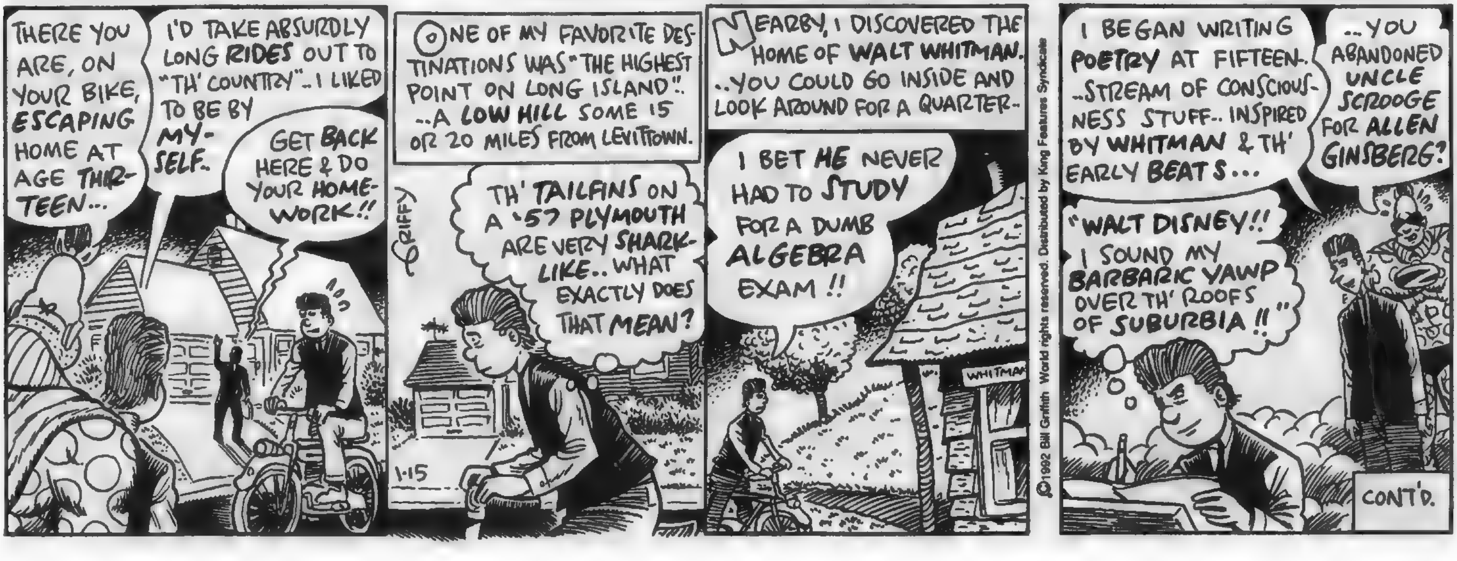
WHAT WAS TH' OLD GROUCH'S REACTION TO LIFE AT FICTIONAL FORT BAXTER?
HE LOVED TO HATE IT.. AND I JUST LOVED IT!
RIDICULOUS! THEY'D BE COURT MARTIALED FOR BEHAVIOR LIKE THAT ON TH' DRILL FIELD!!
HA, HA, HA, HA!!
1·14
MORE!


ZIPPY
"SINK OR SCHWINN"
BILL GRIFFITH
THERE YOU ARE, ON YOUR BIKE, ESCAPING HOME AT AGE THIRTEEN...
I'D TAKE ABSURDLY LONG RIDES OUT TO "TH' COUNTRY".. I LIKED TO BE BY MYSELF..
GET BACK HERE & DO YOUR HOMEWORK!!
ONE OF MY FAVORITE DESTINATIONS WAS "THE HIGHEST POINT ON LONG ISLAND".. ..A LOW HILL SOME 15 OR 20 MILES FROM LEVITTOWN.
GRIFFY
TH' TAILFINS ON A '57 PLYMOUTH ARE VERY SHARK-LIKE.. WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?
1·15
NEARBY, I DISCOVERED THE HOME OF WALT WHITMAN. ..YOU COULD GO INSIDE AND LOOK AROUND FOR A QUARTER-
I BET HE NEVER HAD TO STUDY FOR A DUMB ALGEBRA EXAM!!
WHITMAN
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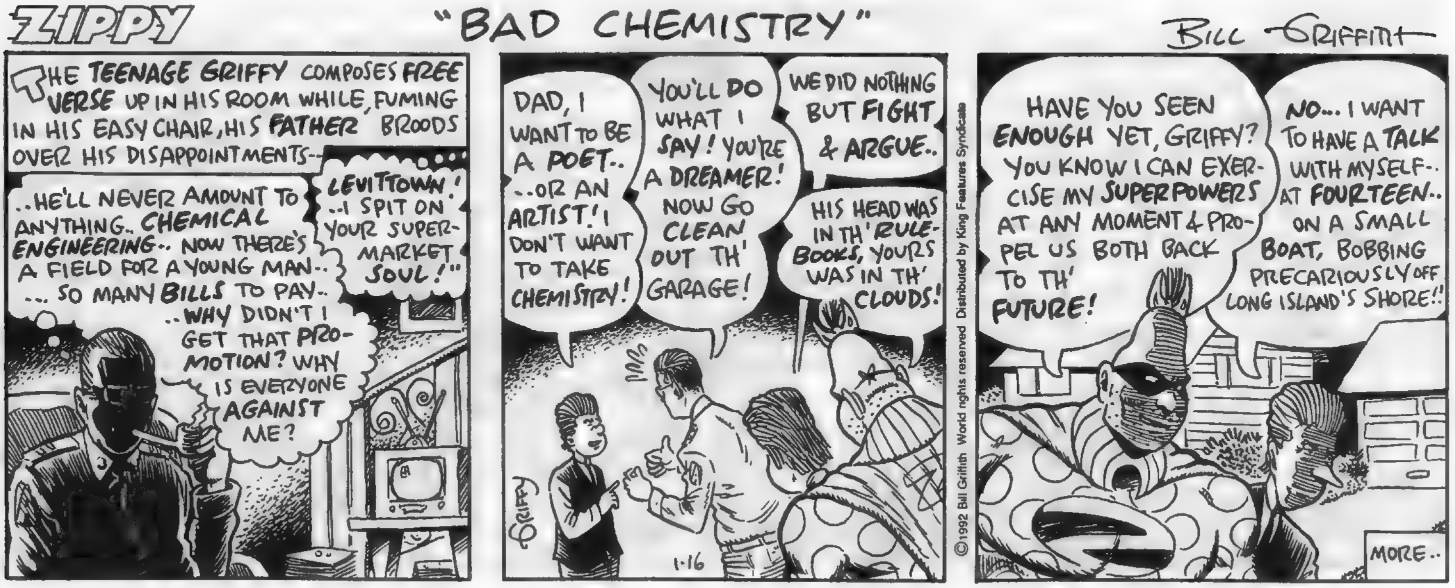
I BEGAN WRITING POETRY AT FIFTEEN.. ..STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS STUFF.. INSPIRED BY WHITMAN & TH' EARLY BEATS...
...YOU ABANDONED UNCLE SCROOGE FOR ALLEN GINSBERG?
"WALT DISNEY!! I SOUND MY BARBARIC YAWP OVER TH' ROOFS OF SUBURBIA!!"
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"BAD CHEMISTRY"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE TEENAGE GRIFFY COMPOSES FREE VERSE UP IN HIS ROOM WHILE, FUMING IN HIS EASY CHAIR, HIS FATHER BROODS OVER HIS DISAPPOINTMENTS--
..HE'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING.. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING.. NOW THERE'S A FIELD FOR A YOUNG MAN.. ... SO MANY BILLS TO PAY.. ..WHY DIDN'T I GET THAT PROMOTION? WHY IS EVERYONE AGAINST ME?
LEVITTOWN! ..I SPIT ON YOUR SUPERMARKET SOUL!"
DAD, I WANT TO BE A POET.. ..OR AN ARTIST! I DON'T WANT TO TAKE CHEMISTRY!
YOU'LL DO WHAT I SAY! YOU'RE A DREAMER! NOW GO CLEAN OUT TH' GARAGE!
WE DID NOTHING BUT FIGHT & ARGUE..
HIS HEAD WAS IN TH' RULE-BOOKS, YOURS WAS IN TH' CLOUDS!
GRIFFY
1-16
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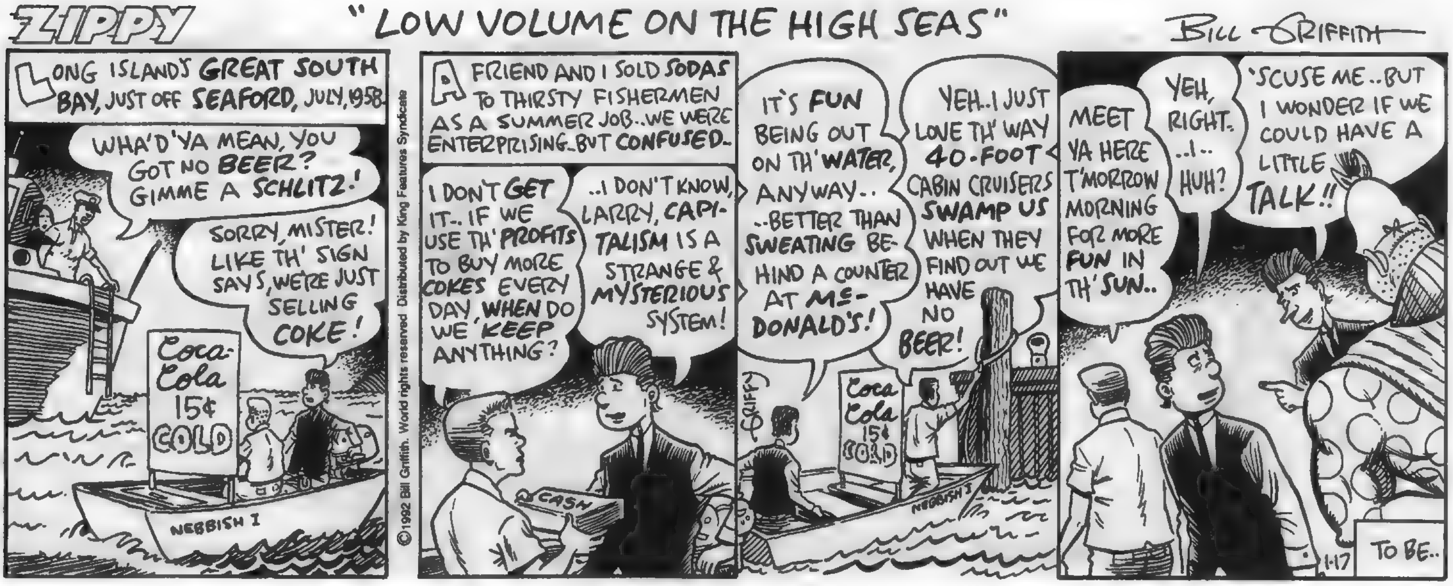
HAVE YOU SEEN ENOUGH YET, GRIFFY? YOU KNOW I CAN EXERCISE MY SUPERPOWERS AT ANY MOMENT & PROPEL US BOTH BACK TO TH' FUTURE!
NO... I WANT TO HAVE A TALK WITH MYSELF.. AT FOURTEEN.. ON A SMALL BOAT, BOBBING PRECARIOUSLY OFF LONG ISLAND'S SHORE!!
MORE..


ZIPPY
"LOW VOLUME ON THE HIGH SEAS"
BILL GRIFFITH
LONG ISLAND'S GREAT SOUTH BAY, JUST OFF SEAFORD, JULY, 1958.
WHA'D'YA MEAN, YOU GOT NO BEER? GIMME A SCHLITZ!
SORRY, MISTER! LIKE TH' SIGN SAYS, WE'RE JUST SELLING COKE!
Coca-Cola 15¢ COLD
NEBBISH I
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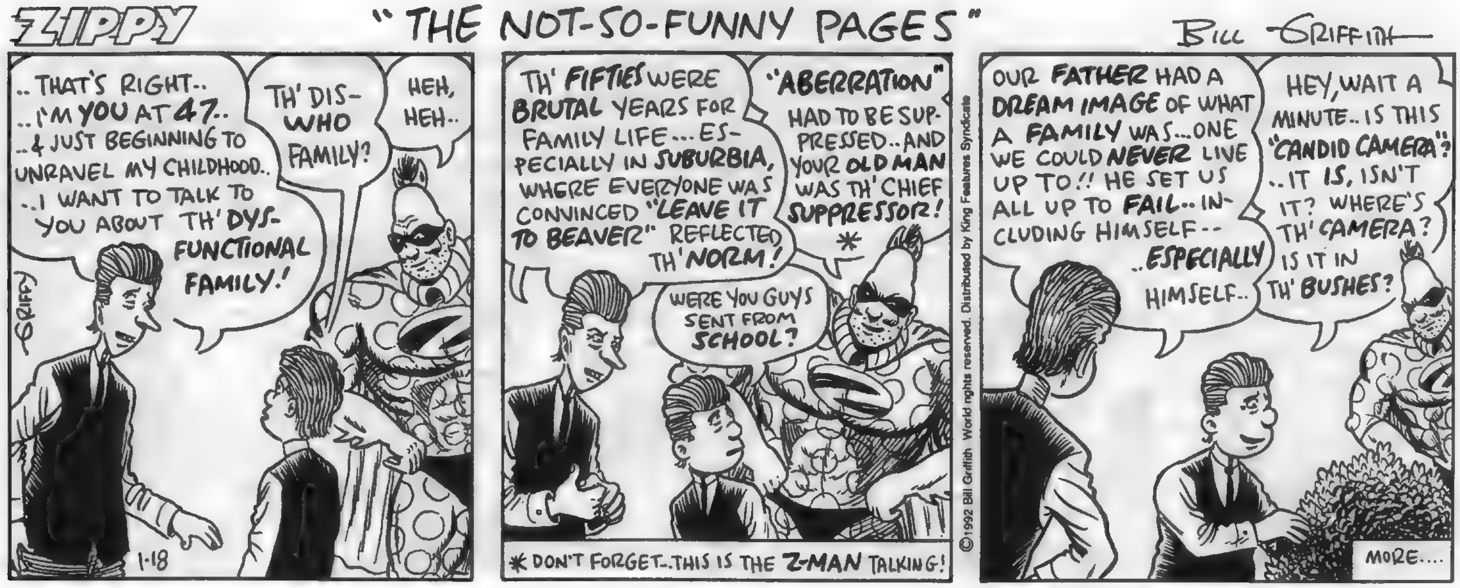
A FRIEND AND I SOLD SODAS TO THIRSTY FISHERMEN AS A SUMMER JOB.. WE WERE ENTERPRISING.. BUT CONFUSED..
I DON'T GET IT.. IF WE USE TH' PROFITS TO BUY MORE COKES EVERY DAY, WHEN DO WE KEEP ANYTHING?
..I DON'T KNOW, LARRY, CAPITALISM IS A STRANGE & MYSTERIOUS SYSTEM!
CASH
IT'S FUN BEING OUT ON TH' WATER, ANYWAY.. ..BETTER THAN SWEATING BEHIND A COUNTER AT McDONALD'S!
YEH.. I JUST LOVE TH' WAY 40-FOOT CABIN CRUISERS SWAMP US WHEN THEY FIND OUT WE HAVE NO BEER!
GRIFFY
Coca Cola 15¢ COLD
NEBBISH I
MEET YA HERE T'MORROW MORNING FOR MORE FUN IN TH' SUN..
YEH, RIGHT. ..I.. HUH?
'SCUSE ME.. BUT I WONDER IF WE COULD HAVE A LITTLE TALK!!
1-17
TO BE..


ZIPPY
"THE NOT-SO-FUNNY PAGES"
BILL GRIFFITH
..THAT'S RIGHT.. ..I'M YOU AT 47.. ..& JUST BEGINNING TO UNRAVEL MY CHILDHOOD.. ..I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT TH' DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY!
TH' DIS-WHO FAMILY?
HEH, HEH..
GRIFFY
1-18
TH' FIFTIES WERE BRUTAL YEARS FOR FAMILY LIFE... ESPECIALLY IN SUBURBIA, WHERE EVERYONE WAS CONVINCED "LEAVE IT TO BEAVER" REFLECTED TH' NORM!
"ABERRATION" HAD TO BE SUPPRESSED.. AND YOUR OLD MAN WAS TH' CHIEF SUPPRESSOR! *
WERE YOU GUYS SENT FROM SCHOOL?
* DON'T FORGET.. THIS IS THE Z-MAN TALKING!
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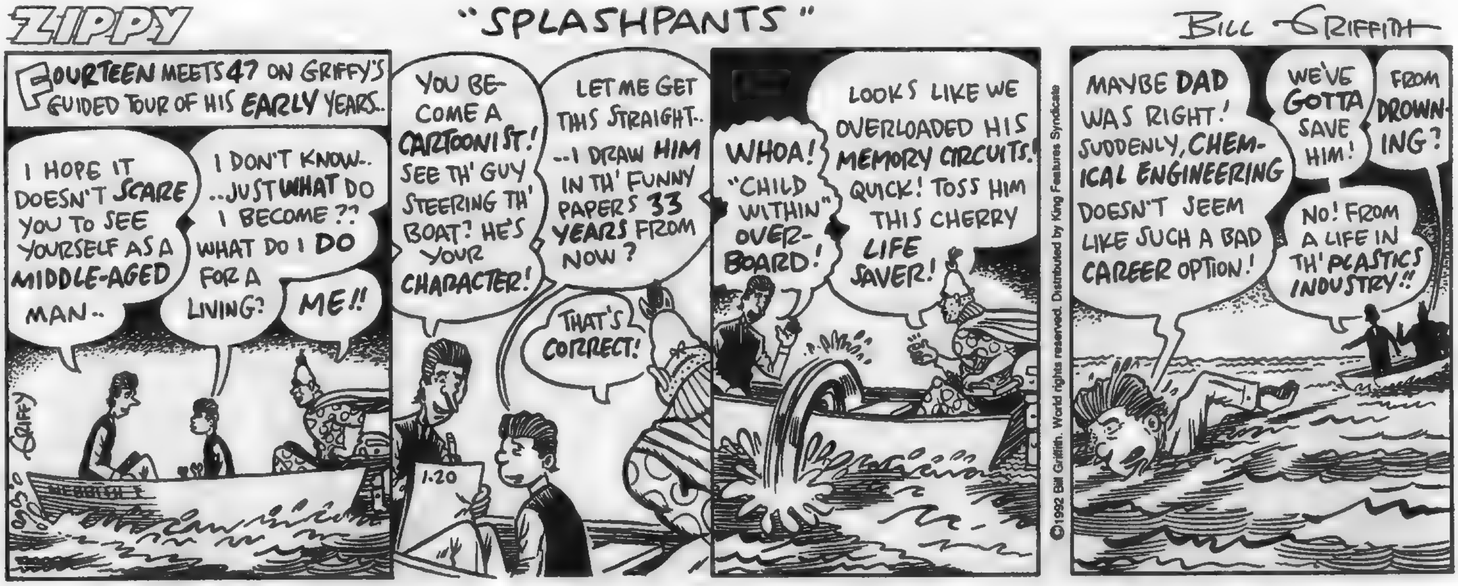
OUR FATHER HAD A DREAM IMAGE OF WHAT A FAMILY WAS... ONE WE COULD NEVER LIVE UP TO!! HE SET US ALL UP TO FAIL.. INCLUDING HIMSELF-- ..ESPECIALLY HIMSELF..
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE.. IS THIS "CANDID CAMERA"? ..IT IS, ISN'T IT? WHERE'S TH' CAMERA? IS IT IN TH' BUSHES?
MORE....


ZIPPY
"SPLASHPANTS"
BILL GRIFFITH
FOURTEEN MEETS 47 ON GRIFFY'S GUIDED TOUR OF HIS EARLY YEARS..
I HOPE IT DOESN'T SCARE YOU TO SEE YOURSELF AS A MIDDLE-AGED MAN..
I DON'T KNOW.. ..JUST WHAT DO I BECOME?? WHAT DO I DO FOR A LIVING?
ME!!
GRIFFY
YOU BECOME A CARTOONIST! SEE TH' GUY STEERING TH' BOAT? HE'S YOUR CHARACTER!
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT.. ..I DRAW HIM IN TH' FUNNY PAPERS 33 YEARS FROM NOW?
THAT'S CORRECT!
1.20
WHOA! "CHILD WITHIN" OVERBOARD!
LOOKS LIKE WE OVERLOADED HIS MEMORY CIRCUITS! QUICK! TOSS HIM THIS CHERRY LIFE SAVER!
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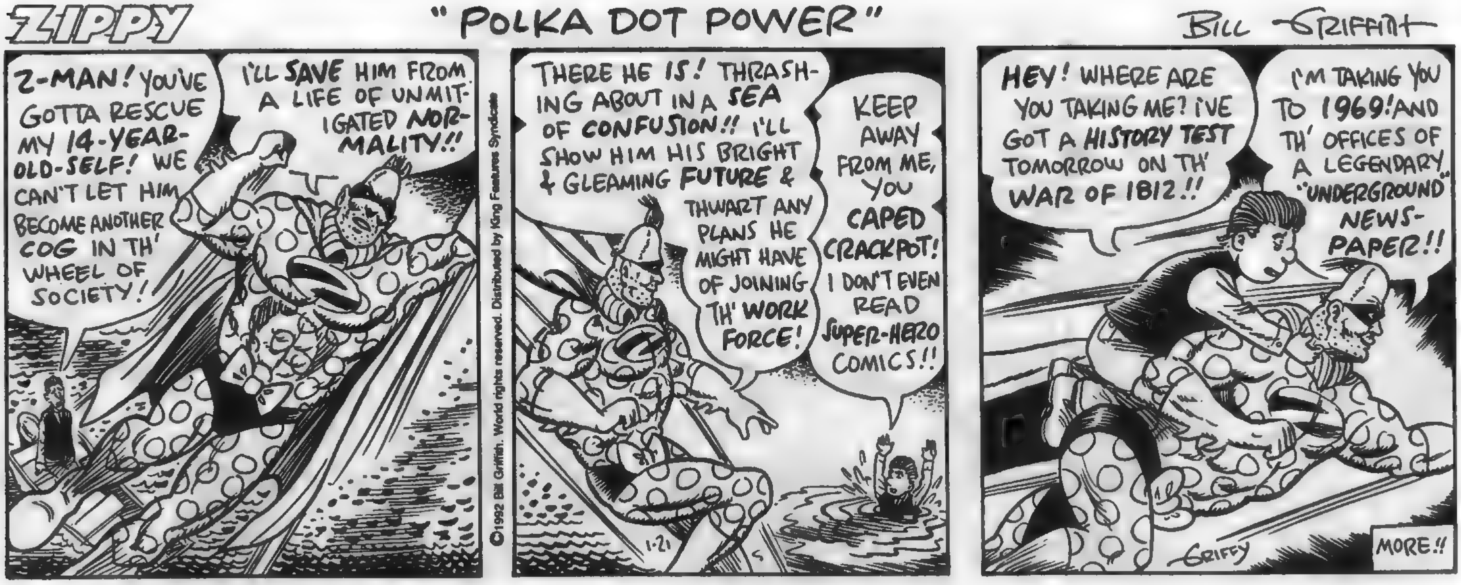
MAYBE DAD WAS RIGHT! SUDDENLY, CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SUCH A BAD CAREER OPTION!
WE'VE GOTTA SAVE HIM!
FROM DROWNING?
NO! FROM A LIFE IN TH' PLASTICS INDUSTRY!!


ZIPPY
"POLKA DOT POWER"
BILL GRIFFITH
Z-MAN! YOU'VE GOTTA RESCUE MY 14-YEAR-OLD-SELF! WE CAN'T LET HIM BECOME ANOTHER COG IN TH' WHEEL OF SOCIETY!
I'LL SAVE HIM FROM A LIFE OF UNMITIGATED NORMALITY!!
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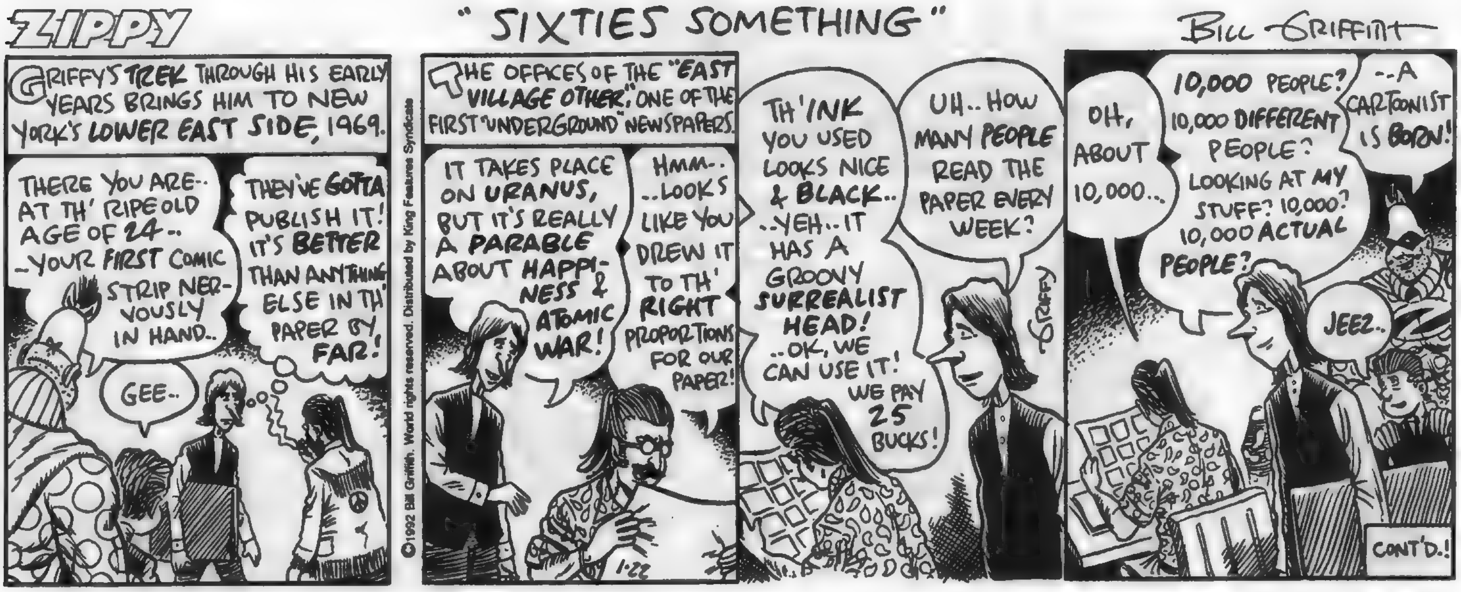
THERE HE IS! THRASHING ABOUT IN A SEA OF CONFUSION!! I'LL SHOW HIM HIS BRIGHT & GLEAMING FUTURE & THWART ANY PLANS HE MIGHT HAVE OF JOINING TH' WORK FORCE!
KEEP AWAY FROM ME, YOU CAPED CRACKPOT! I DON'T EVEN READ SUPER-HERO COMICS!!
1-21
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME? I'VE GOT A HISTORY TEST TOMORROW ON TH' WAR OF 1812!!
I'M TAKING YOU TO 1969! AND TH' OFFICES OF A LEGENDARY "UNDERGROUND" NEWSPAPER!!
GRIFFY
MORE!!


ZIPPY
"SIXTIES SOMETHING"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY'S TREK THROUGH HIS EARLY YEARS BRINGS HIM TO NEW YORK'S LOWER EAST SIDE, 1969.
THERE YOU ARE.. AT TH' RIPE OLD AGE OF 24.. ..YOUR FIRST COMIC STRIP NERVOUSLY IN HAND..
THEY'VE GOTTA PUBLISH IT! IT'S BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN TH' PAPER BY FAR!
GEE..
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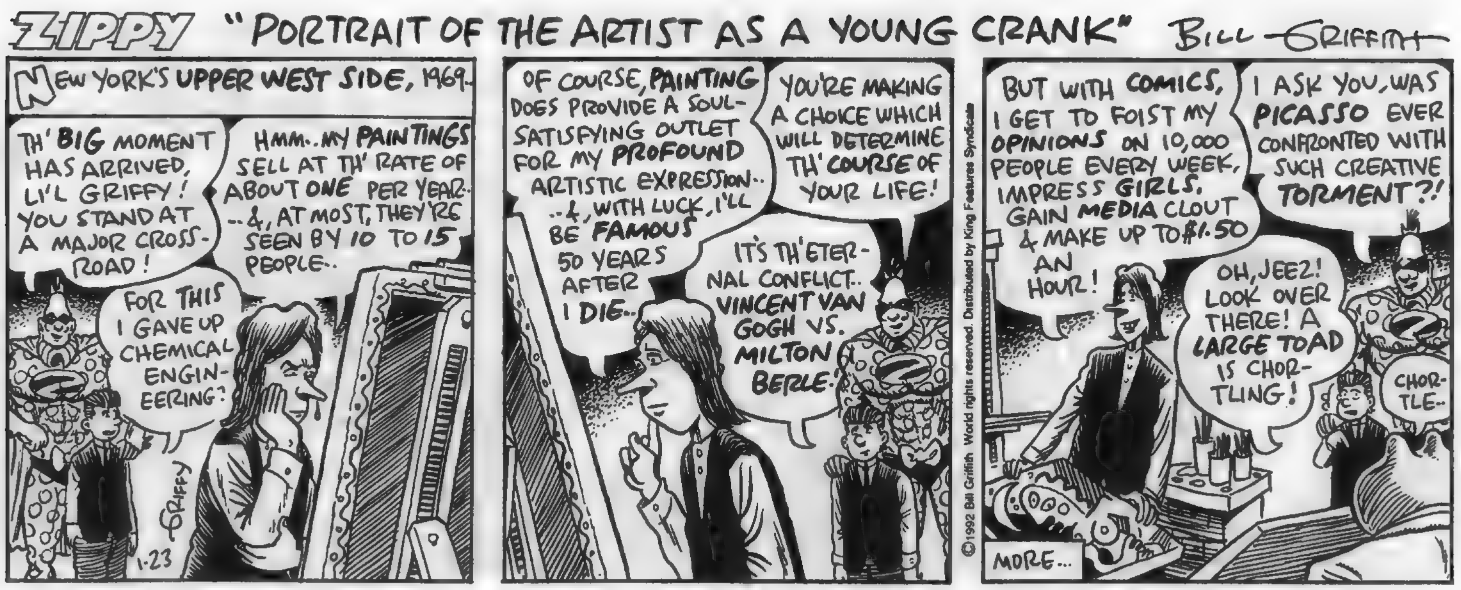
THE OFFICES OF THE "EAST VILLAGE OTHER," ONE OF THE FIRST "UNDERGROUND" NEWSPAPERS.
IT TAKES PLACE ON URANUS, BUT IT'S REALLY A PARABLE ABOUT HAPPINESS & ATOMIC WAR!
HMM.. ..LOOKS LIKE YOU DREW IT TO TH' RIGHT PROPORTIONS FOR OUR PAPER!
1-22
TH' INK YOU USED LOOKS NICE & BLACK.. ..YEH.. IT HAS A GROOVY SURREALIST HEAD! ..OK, WE CAN USE IT! WE PAY 25 BUCKS!
UH.. HOW MANY PEOPLE READ THE PAPER EVERY WEEK?
GRIFFY
OH, ABOUT 10,000..
10,000 PEOPLE? 10,000 DIFFERENT PEOPLE? LOOKING AT MY STUFF? 10,000? 10,000 ACTUAL PEOPLE?
..A CARTOONIST IS BORN!
JEEZ..
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY "PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG CRANK" BILL GRIFFITH
NEW YORK'S UPPER WEST SIDE, 1969..
TH' BIG MOMENT HAS ARRIVED, LI'L GRIFFY! YOU STAND AT A MAJOR CROSS-ROAD!
HMM.. MY PAINTINGS SELL AT TH' RATE OF ABOUT ONE PER YEAR.. ..&, AT MOST, THEY'RE SEEN BY 10 TO 15 PEOPLE..
FOR THIS I GAVE UP CHEMICAL ENGINEERING?
GRIFFY 1·23
OF COURSE, PAINTING DOES PROVIDE A SOUL-SATISFYING OUTLET FOR MY PROFOUND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION.. ..&, WITH LUCK, I'LL BE FAMOUS 50 YEARS AFTER I DIE..
YOU'RE MAKING A CHOICE WHICH WILL DETERMINE TH' COURSE OF YOUR LIFE!
IT'S TH' ETERNAL CONFLICT.. VINCENT VAN GOGH VS. MILTON BERLE!
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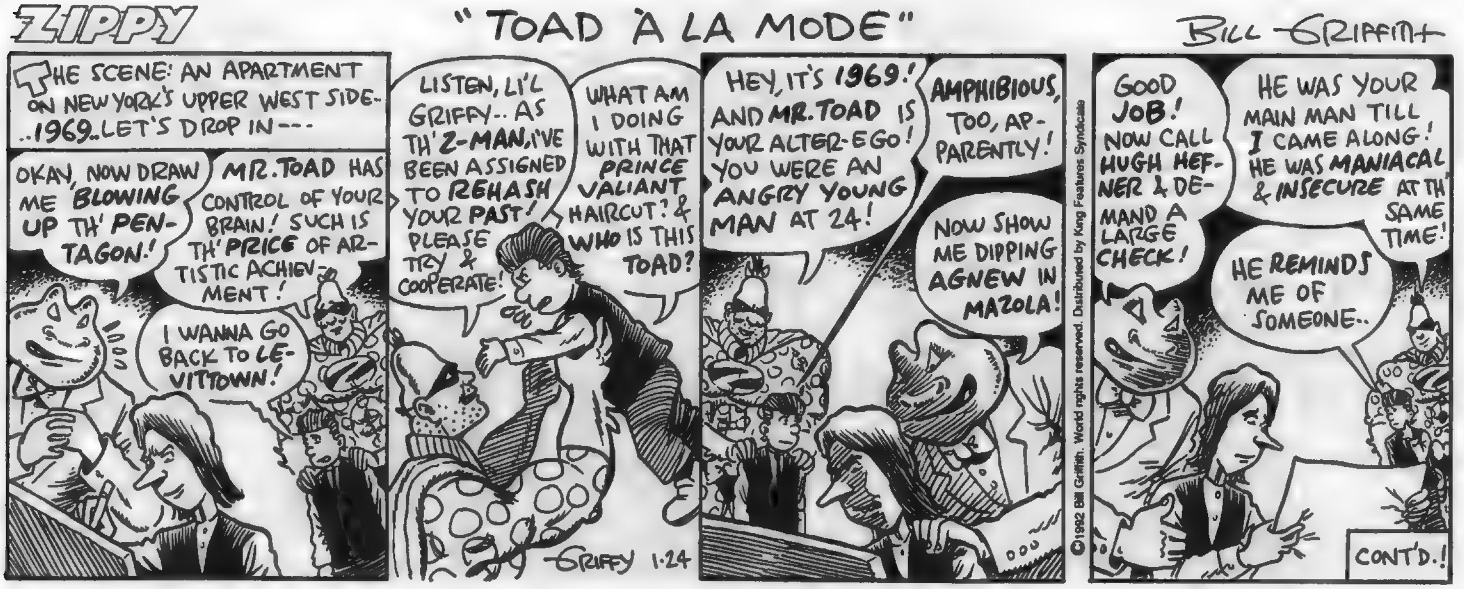
BUT WITH COMICS, I GET TO FOIST MY OPINIONS ON 10,000 PEOPLE EVERY WEEK, IMPRESS GIRLS, GAIN MEDIA CLOUT & MAKE UP TO $1.50 AN HOUR!
I ASK YOU, WAS PICASSO EVER CONFRONTED WITH SUCH CREATIVE TORMENT?!
OH, JEEZ! LOOK OVER THERE! A LARGE TOAD IS CHORTLING!
CHORTLE..
MORE...


ZIPPY "TOAD À LA MODE" BILL GRIFFITH
THE SCENE: AN APARTMENT ON NEW YORK'S UPPER WEST SIDE.. ..1969.. LET'S DROP IN---
OKAY, NOW DRAW ME 'BLOWING UP TH' PENTAGON'!
MR. TOAD HAS CONTROL OF YOUR BRAIN! SUCH IS TH' PRICE OF ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT!
I WANNA GO BACK TO LEVITTOWN!
LISTEN, LI'L GRIFFY.. AS TH' Z-MAN, I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO REHASH YOUR PAST! PLEASE TRY & COOPERATE!
WHAT AM I DOING WITH THAT PRINCE VALIANT HAIRCUT? & WHO IS THIS TOAD?
GRIFFY 1·24
HEY, IT'S 1969! AND MR. TOAD IS YOUR ALTER-EGO! YOU WERE AN ANGRY YOUNG MAN AT 24!
AMPHIBIOUS, TOO, APPARENTLY!
NOW SHOW ME DIPPING AGNEW IN MAZOLA!
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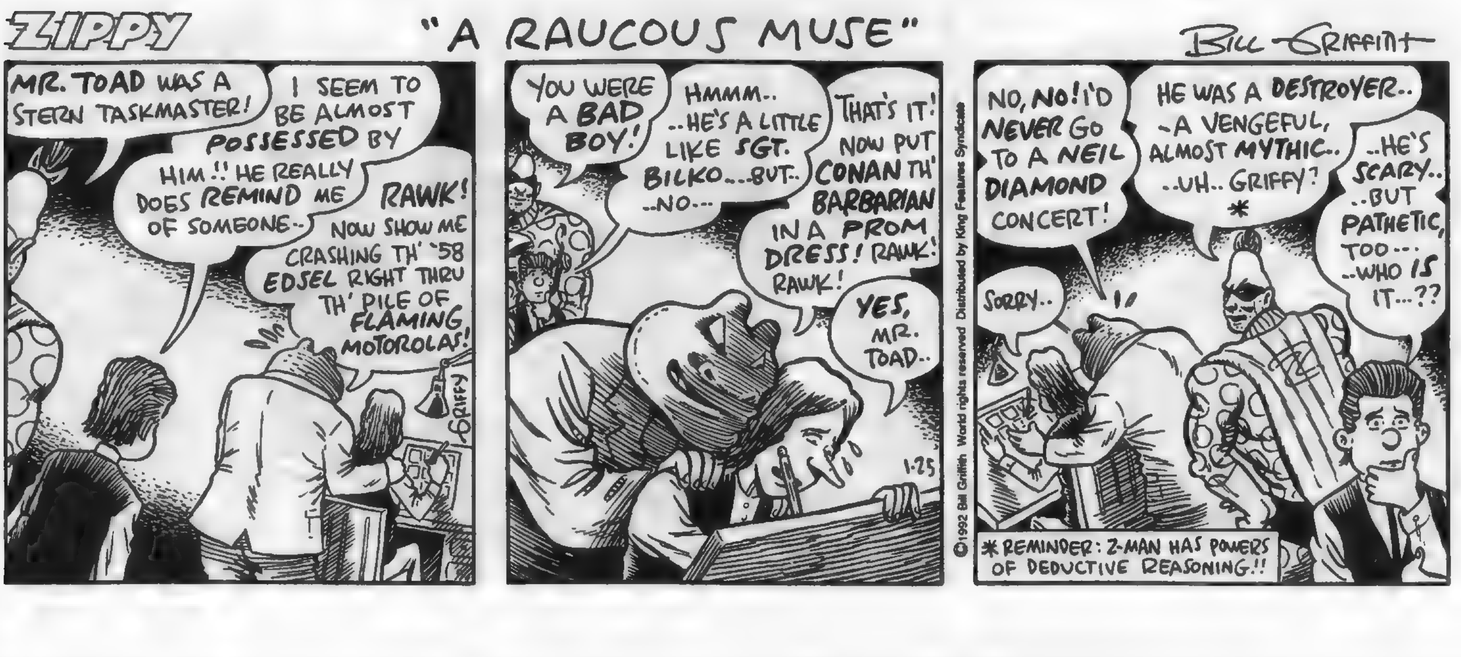
GOOD JOB! NOW CALL HUGH HEFNER & DEMAND A LARGE CHECK!
HE WAS YOUR MAIN MAN TILL I CAME ALONG! HE WAS MANIACAL & INSECURE AT TH' SAME TIME!
HE REMINDS ME OF SOMEONE..
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY "A RAUCOUS MUSE" BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD WAS A STERN TASKMASTER!
I SEEM TO BE ALMOST POSSESSED BY HIM!! HE REALLY DOES REMIND ME OF SOMEONE..
RAWK! NOW SHOW ME CRASHING TH' '58 EDSEL RIGHT THRU TH' PILE OF FLAMING MOTOROLAS!
GRIFFY
YOU WERE A BAD BOY!
HMMM.. ..HE'S A LITTLE LIKE SGT. BILKO... BUT.. ..NO...
THAT'S IT! NOW PUT CONAN TH' BARBARIAN IN A PROM DRESS! RAWK! RAWK!
YES, MR. TOAD..
1·25
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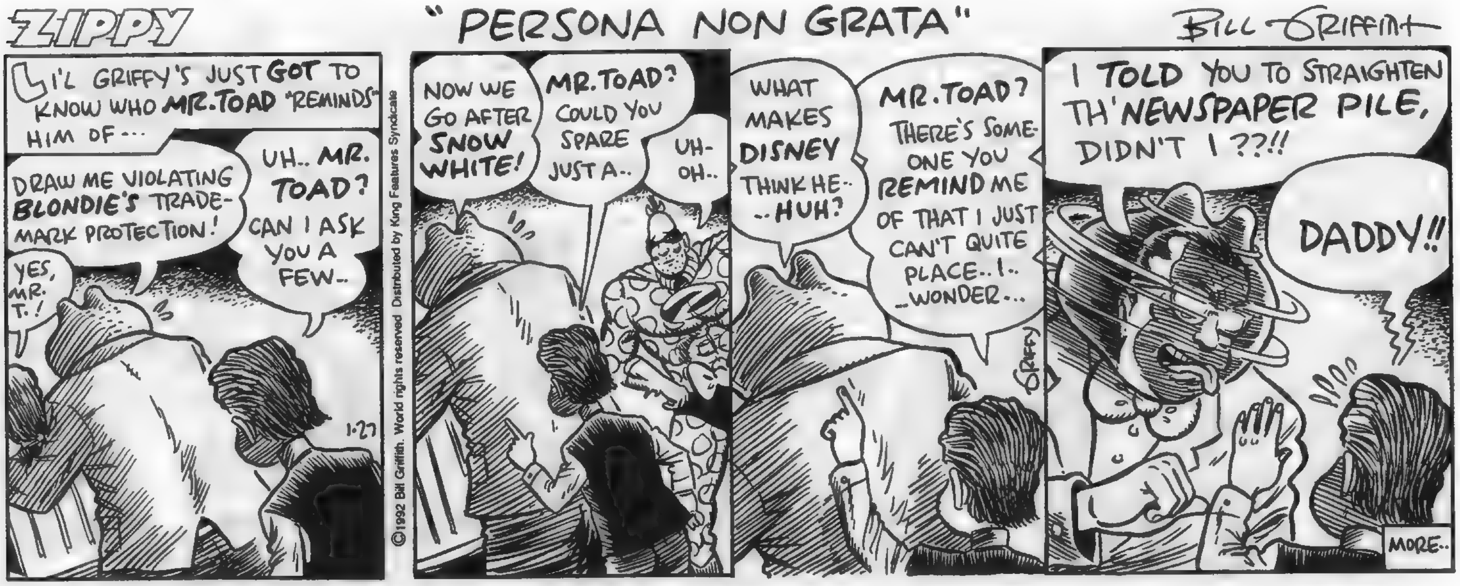
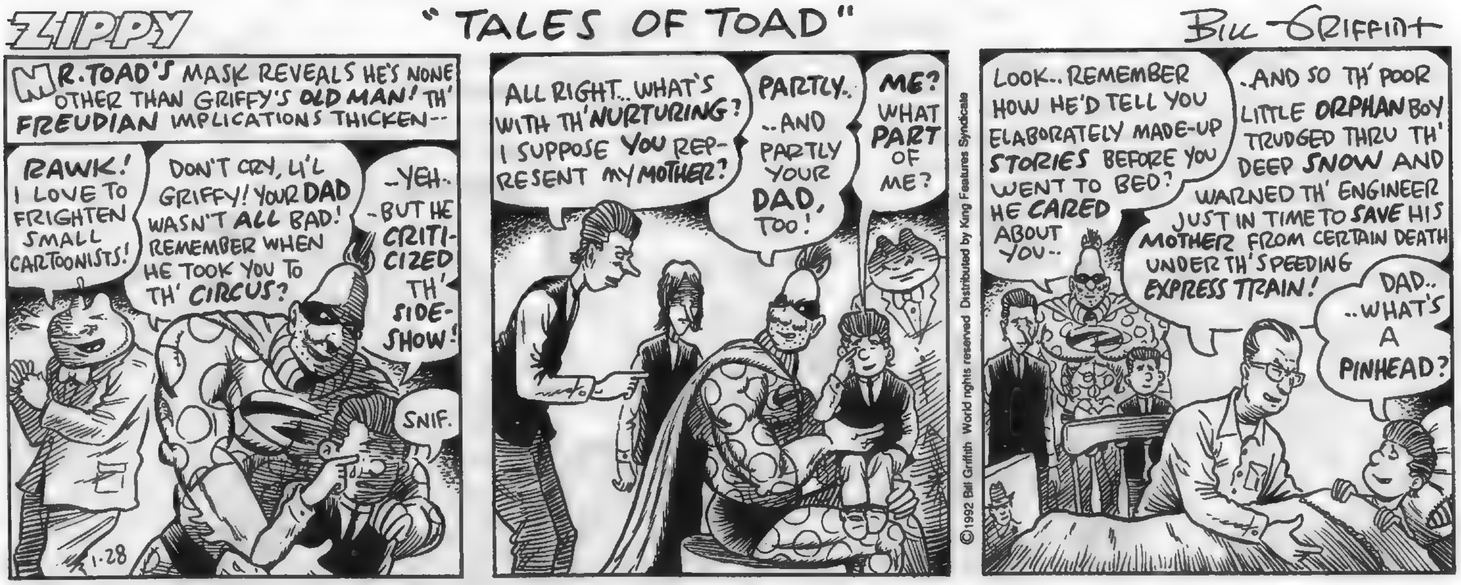
NO, NO! I'D NEVER GO TO A NEIL DIAMOND CONCERT!
SORRY..
HE WAS A DESTROYER.. ..A VENGEFUL, ALMOST MYTHIC.. ..UH.. GRIFFY? *
..HE'S SCARY.. ..BUT PATHETIC, TOO... ..WHO IS IT...??
* REMINDER: Z-MAN HAS POWERS OF DEDUCTIVE REASONING!!


ZIPPY
"PERSONA NON GRATA"
BILL GRIFFITH
LI'L GRIFFY'S JUST GOT TO KNOW WHO MR. TOAD "REMINDS" HIM OF…
DRAW ME VIOLATING BLONDIE'S TRADEMARK PROTECTION!
UH.. MR. TOAD? CAN I ASK YOU A FEW..
YES, MR. T.!
1-27
©1992 Bill Griffith. World rights reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
NOW WE GO AFTER SNOW WHITE!
MR. TOAD? COULD YOU SPARE JUST A..
UH-OH..
WHAT MAKES DISNEY THINK HE.. ..HUH?
MR. TOAD? THERE'S SOMEONE YOU REMIND ME OF THAT I JUST CAN'T QUITE PLACE.. I.. ..WONDER…
GRIFFY
I TOLD YOU TO STRAIGHTEN TH' NEWSPAPER PILE, DIDN'T I??!!
DADDY!!
MORE..


ZIPPY
"TALES OF TOAD"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD'S MASK REVEALS HE'S NONE OTHER THAN GRIFFY'S OLD MAN! TH' FREUDIAN IMPLICATIONS THICKEN--
RAWK! I LOVE TO FRIGHTEN SMALL CARTOONISTS!
DON'T CRY, LI'L GRIFFY! YOUR DAD WASN'T ALL BAD! REMEMBER WHEN HE TOOK YOU TO TH' CIRCUS?
-YEH.. -BUT HE CRITICIZED TH' SIDESHOW!
SNIF.
1-28
ALL RIGHT.. WHAT'S WITH TH' NURTURING? I SUPPOSE YOU REPRESENT MY MOTHER?
PARTLY.. ..AND PARTLY YOUR DAD, TOO!
ME? WHAT PART OF ME?
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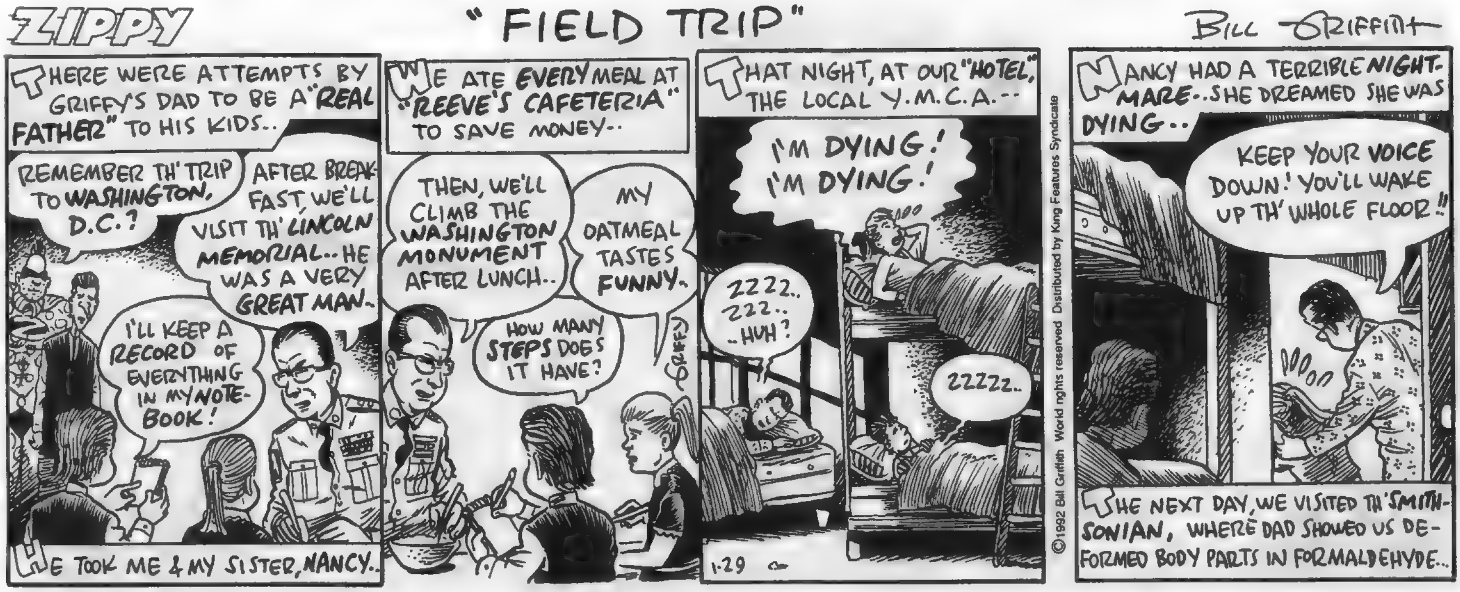
LOOK.. REMEMBER HOW HE'D TELL YOU ELABORATELY MADE-UP STORIES BEFORE YOU WENT TO BED? HE CARED ABOUT YOU..
..AND SO TH' POOR LITTLE ORPHAN BOY TRUDGED THRU TH' DEEP SNOW AND WARNED TH' ENGINEER JUST IN TIME TO SAVE HIS MOTHER FROM CERTAIN DEATH UNDER TH' SPEEDING EXPRESS TRAIN!
DAD.. ..WHAT'S A PINHEAD?


ZIPPY
"FIELD TRIP"
BILL GRIFFITH
THERE WERE ATTEMPTS BY GRIFFY'S DAD TO BE A "REAL FATHER" TO HIS KIDS..
REMEMBER TH' TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.?
AFTER BREAKFAST, WE'LL VISIT TH' LINCOLN MEMORIAL.. HE WAS A VERY GREAT MAN..
I'LL KEEP A RECORD OF EVERYTHING IN MY NOTEBOOK!
HE TOOK ME & MY SISTER, NANCY..
WE ATE EVERY MEAL AT "REEVE'S CAFETERIA" TO SAVE MONEY..
THEN, WE'LL CLIMB THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT AFTER LUNCH..
MY OATMEAL TASTES FUNNY..
HOW MANY STEPS DOES IT HAVE?
GRIFFY
THAT NIGHT, AT OUR "HOTEL," THE LOCAL Y.M.C.A.--
I'M DYING! I'M DYING!
ZZZZ.. ZZZ.. ..HUH?
ZZZZZ..
1-29
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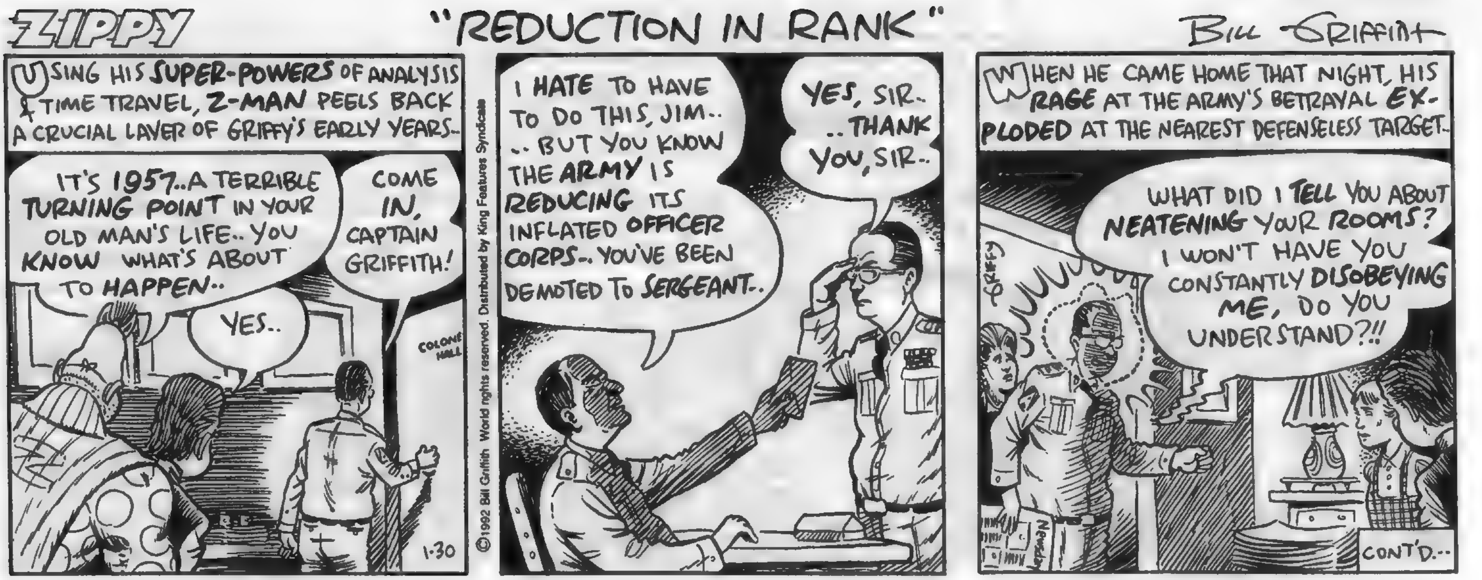
NANCY HAD A TERRIBLE NIGHTMARE..SHE DREAMED SHE WAS DYING..
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN! YOU'LL WAKE UP TH' WHOLE FLOOR!!
THE NEXT DAY, WE VISITED TH' SMITHSONIAN, WHERE DAD SHOWED US DEFORMED BODY PARTS IN FORMALDEHYDE..


ZIPPY
"REDUCTION IN RANK"
BILL GRIFFITH
USING HIS SUPER-POWERS OF ANALYSIS & TIME TRAVEL, Z-MAN PEELS BACK A CRUCIAL LAYER OF GRIFFY'S EARLY YEARS..
IT'S 1957.. A TERRIBLE TURNING POINT IN YOUR OLD MAN'S LIFE.. YOU KNOW WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN..
YES..
COME IN, CAPTAIN GRIFFITH!
COLONEL HALL
1-30
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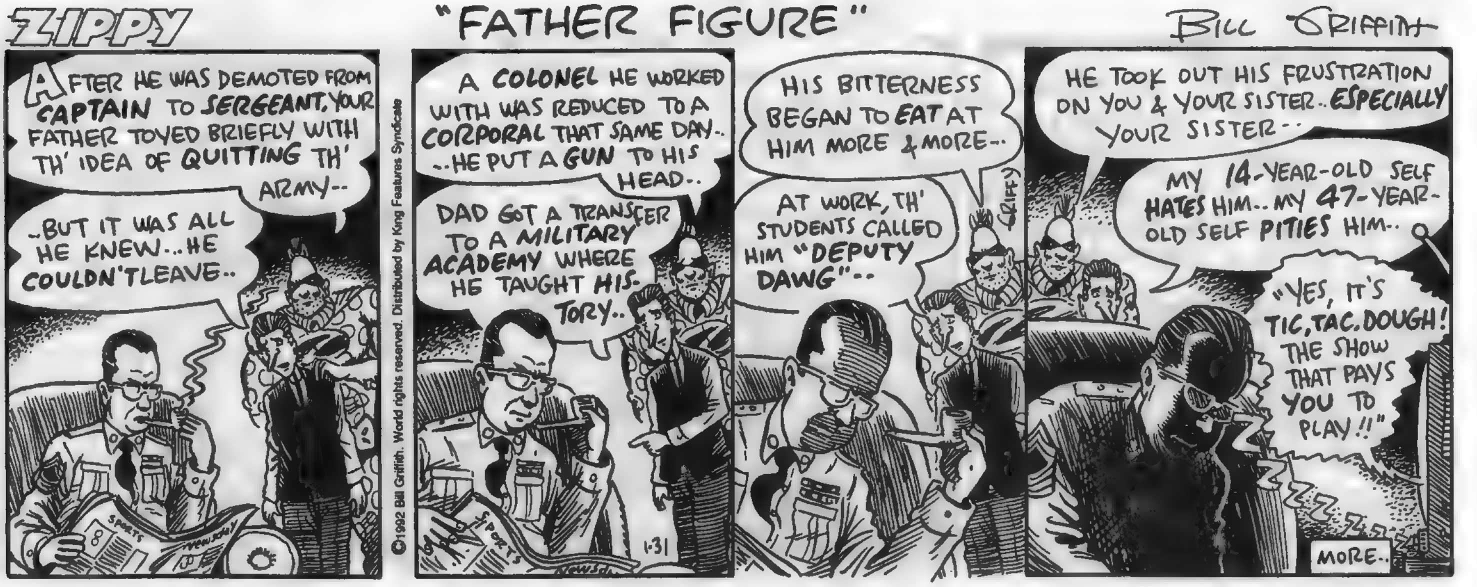
I HATE TO HAVE TO DO THIS, JIM.. ..BUT YOU KNOW THE ARMY IS REDUCING ITS INFLATED OFFICER CORPS.. YOU'VE BEEN DEMOTED TO SERGEANT..
YES, SIR.. ..THANK YOU, SIR..
WHEN HE CAME HOME THAT NIGHT, HIS RAGE AT THE ARMY'S BETRAYAL EXPLODED AT THE NEAREST DEFENSELESS TARGET..
WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT NEATENING YOUR ROOMS? I WON'T HAVE YOU CONSTANTLY DISOBEYING ME, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?!!
GRIFFY
CONT'D..


ZIPPY
"FATHER FIGURE"
BILL GRIFFITH
AFTER HE WAS DEMOTED FROM CAPTAIN TO SERGEANT, YOUR FATHER TOYED BRIEFLY WITH TH' IDEA OF QUITTING TH' ARMY..
..BUT IT WAS ALL HE KNEW... HE COULDN'T LEAVE..
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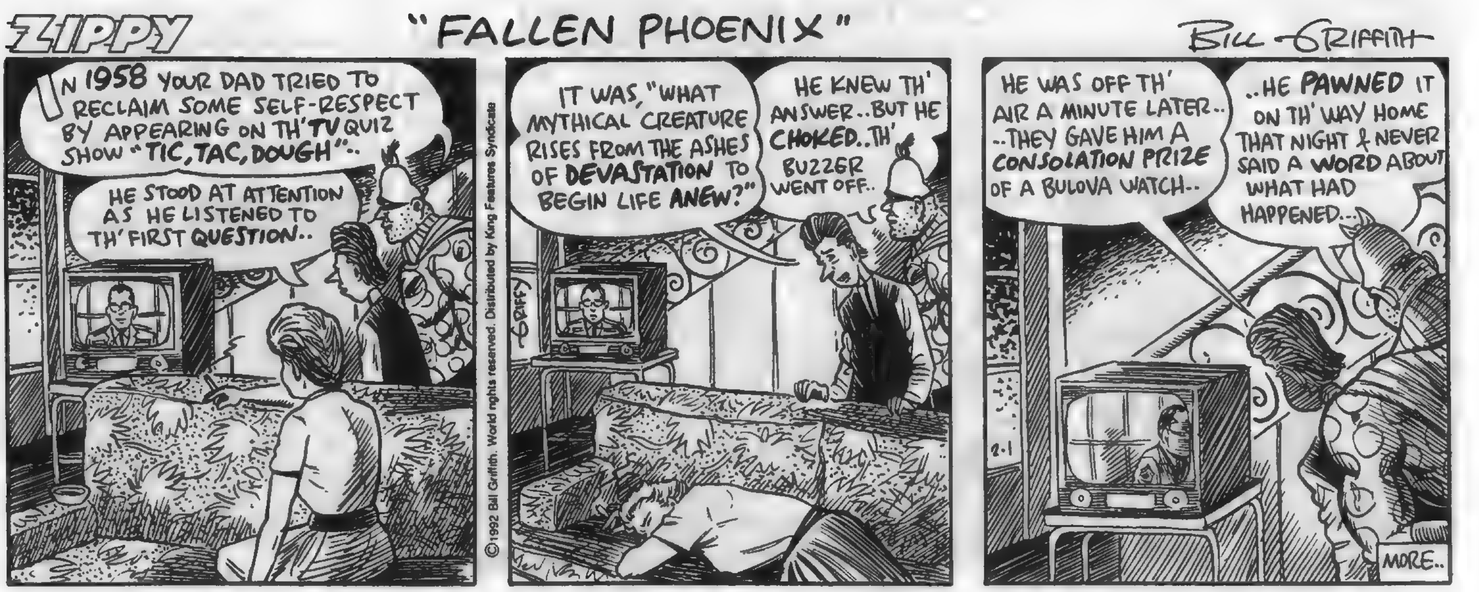
A COLONEL HE WORKED WITH WAS REDUCED TO A CORPORAL THAT SAME DAY.. ..HE PUT A GUN TO HIS HEAD..
DAD GOT A TRANSFER TO A MILITARY ACADEMY WHERE HE TAUGHT HISTORY..
1-31
HIS BITTERNESS BEGAN TO EAT AT HIM MORE & MORE..
AT WORK, TH' STUDENTS CALLED HIM "DEPUTY DAWG"..
GRIFFY
HE TOOK OUT HIS FRUSTRATION ON YOU & YOUR SISTER.. ESPECIALLY YOUR SISTER..
MY 14-YEAR-OLD SELF HATES HIM.. MY 47-YEAR-OLD SELF PITIES HIM..
"YES, IT'S TIC, TAC, DOUGH! THE SHOW THAT PAYS YOU TO PLAY!!"
MORE..


ZIPPY
"FALLEN PHOENIX"
BILL GRIFFITH
IN 1958 YOUR DAD TRIED TO RECLAIM SOME SELF-RESPECT BY APPEARING ON TH' TV QUIZ SHOW "TIC, TAC, DOUGH"..
HE STOOD AT ATTENTION AS HE LISTENED TO TH' FIRST QUESTION..
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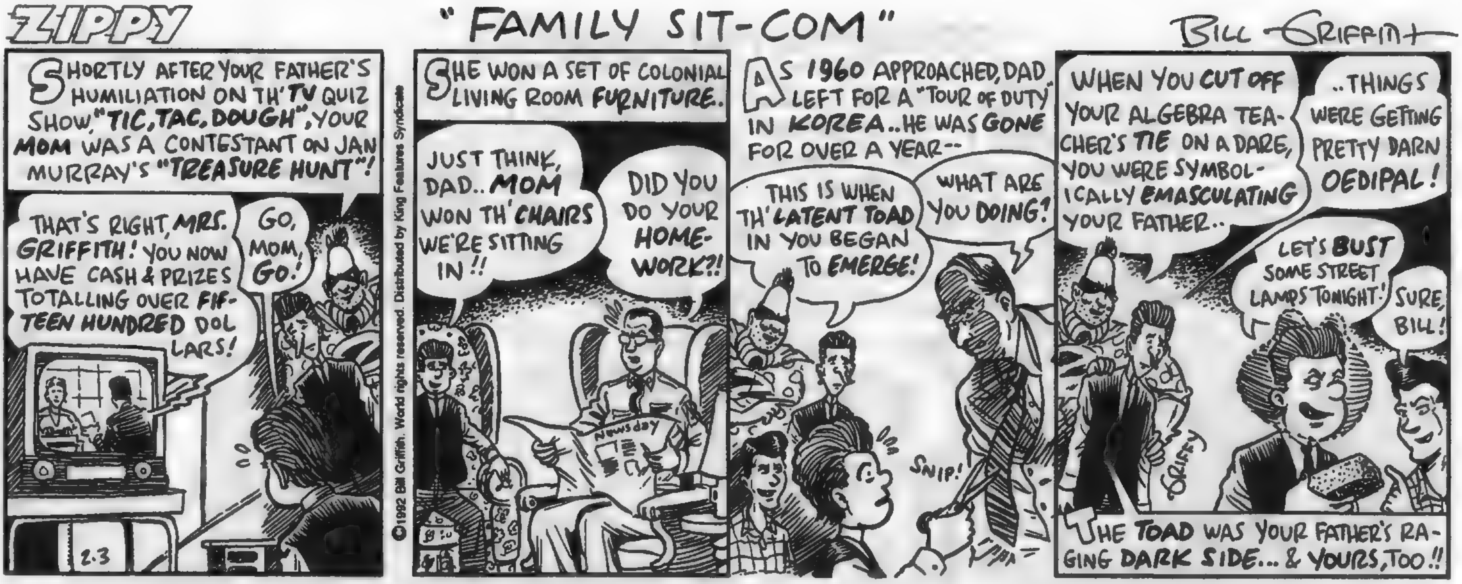
IT WAS, "WHAT MYTHICAL CREATURE RISES FROM THE ASHES OF DEVASTATION TO BEGIN LIFE ANEW?"
HE KNEW TH' ANSWER.. BUT HE CHOKED.. TH' BUZZER WENT OFF..
GRIFFY
HE WAS OFF TH' AIR A MINUTE LATER.. ..THEY GAVE HIM A CONSOLATION PRIZE OF A BULOVA WATCH..
..HE PAWNED IT ON TH' WAY HOME THAT NIGHT & NEVER SAID A WORD ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED...
2-1
MORE..


ZIPPY
"FAMILY SIT-COM"
BILL GRIFFITH
SHORTLY AFTER YOUR FATHER'S HUMILIATION ON TH' TV QUIZ SHOW, "TIC, TAC, DOUGH", YOUR MOM WAS A CONTESTANT ON JAN MURRAY'S "TREASURE HUNT"!
THAT'S RIGHT, MRS. GRIFFITH! YOU NOW HAVE CASH & PRIZES TOTALLING OVER FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS!
GO, MOM, GO!
2-3
SHE WON A SET OF COLONIAL LIVING ROOM FURNITURE.
JUST THINK, DAD.. MOM WON TH' CHAIRS WE'RE SITTING IN!!
DID YOU DO YOUR HOMEWORK?!
Newsday
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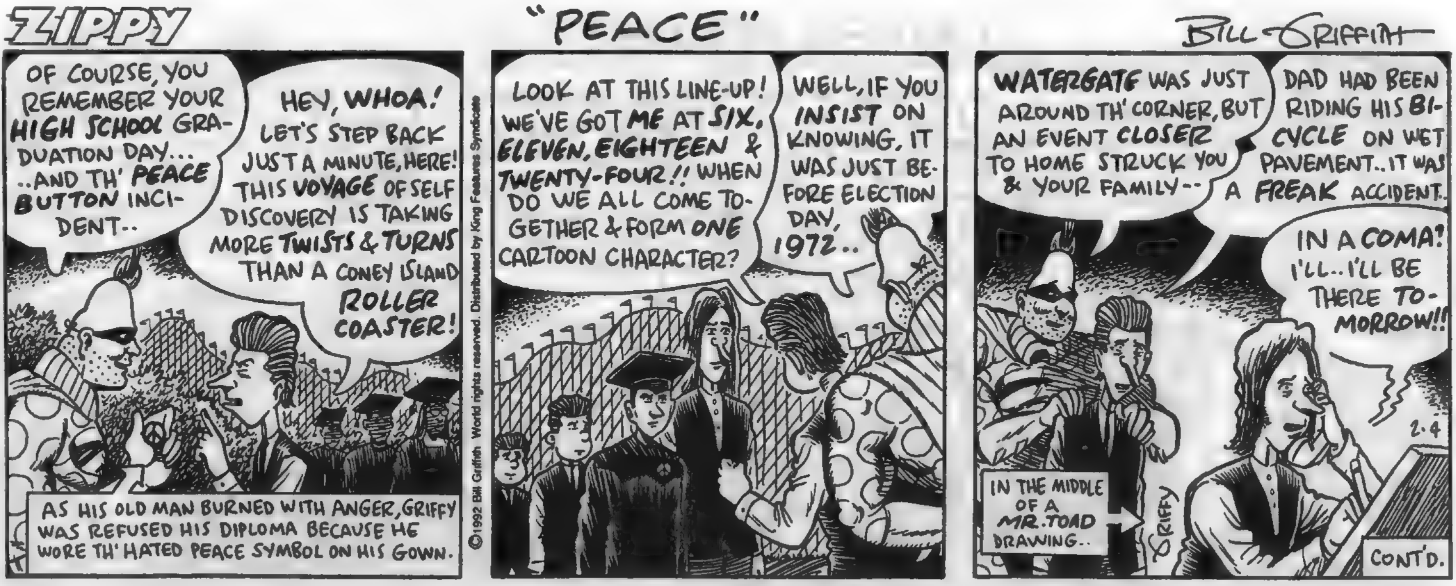
AS 1960 APPROACHED, DAD LEFT FOR A "TOUR OF DUTY" IN KOREA.. HE WAS GONE FOR OVER A YEAR--
THIS IS WHEN TH' LATENT TOAD IN YOU BEGAN TO EMERGE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SNIP!
WHEN YOU CUT OFF YOUR ALGEBRA TEACHER'S TIE ON A DARE, YOU WERE SYMBOLICALLY EMASCULATING YOUR FATHER..
..THINGS WERE GETTING PRETTY DARN OEDIPAL!
LET'S BUST SOME STREET LAMPS TONIGHT!
SURE, BILL!
GRIFFY
THE TOAD WAS YOUR FATHER'S RAGING DARK SIDE... & YOURS, TOO!!


ZIPPY
"PEACE"
BILL GRIFFITH
OF COURSE, YOU REMEMBER YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DAY.... ..AND TH' PEACE BUTTON INCIDENT..
HEY, WHOA! LET'S STEP BACK JUST A MINUTE, HERE! THIS VOYAGE OF SELF DISCOVERY IS TAKING MORE TWISTS & TURNS THAN A CONEY ISLAND ROLLER COASTER!
AS HIS OLD MAN BURNED WITH ANGER, GRIFFY WAS REFUSED HIS DIPLOMA BECAUSE HE WORE TH' HATED PEACE SYMBOL ON HIS GOWN.
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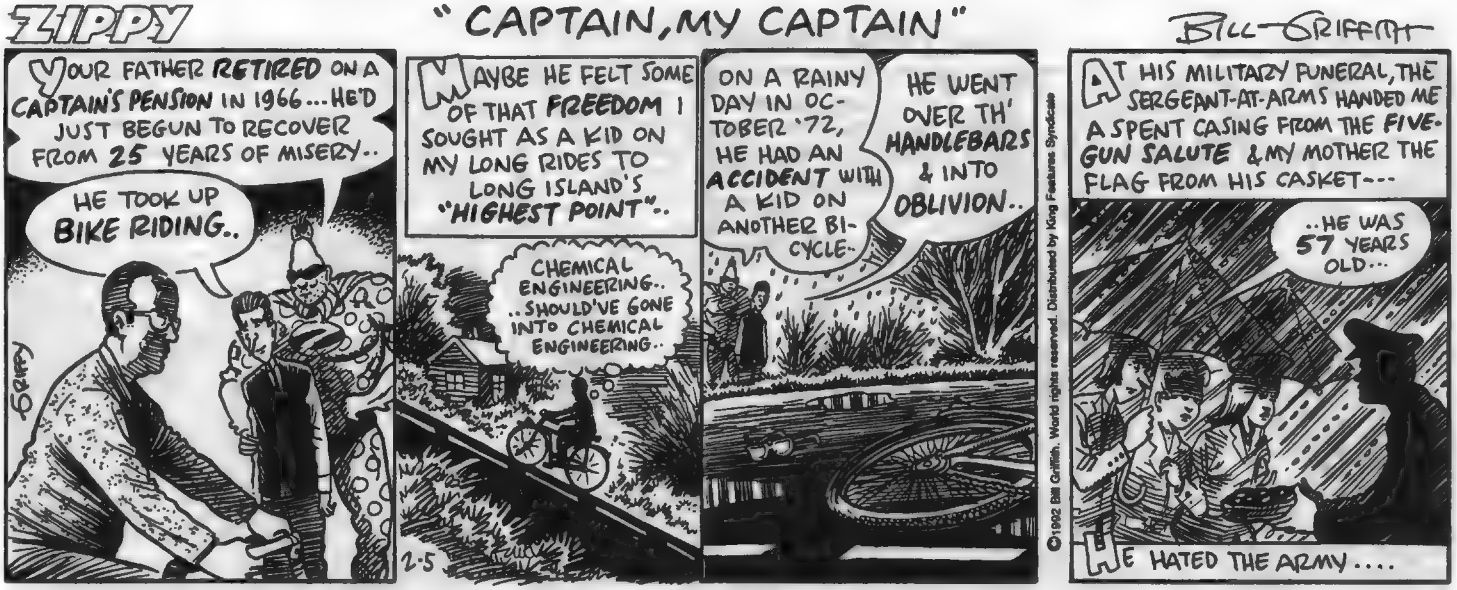
LOOK AT THIS LINE-UP! WE'VE GOT ME AT SIX, ELEVEN, EIGHTEEN & TWENTY-FOUR!! WHEN DO WE ALL COME TOGETHER & FORM ONE CARTOON CHARACTER?
WELL, IF YOU INSIST ON KNOWING, IT WAS JUST BEFORE ELECTION DAY, 1972..
WATERGATE WAS JUST AROUND TH' CORNER, BUT AN EVENT CLOSER TO HOME STRUCK YOU & YOUR FAMILY--
DAD HAD BEEN RIDING HIS BICYCLE ON WET PAVEMENT.. IT WAS A FREAK ACCIDENT.
IN A COMA? I'LL...I'LL BE THERE TOMORROW!!
2-4
IN THE MIDDLE OF A MR. TOAD DRAWING..
GRIFFY
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOUR FATHER RETIRED ON A CAPTAIN'S PENSION IN 1966... HE'D JUST BEGUN TO RECOVER FROM 25 YEARS OF MISERY..
HE TOOK UP BIKE RIDING..
GRIFFY
MAYBE HE FELT SOME OF THAT FREEDOM I SOUGHT AS A KID ON MY LONG RIDES TO LONG ISLAND'S "HIGHEST POINT"..
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING.. ..SHOULD'VE GONE INTO CHEMICAL ENGINEERING..
2-5
ON A RAINY DAY IN OCTOBER '72, HE HAD AN ACCIDENT WITH A KID ON ANOTHER BICYCLE..
HE WENT OVER TH' HANDLEBARS & INTO OBLIVION..
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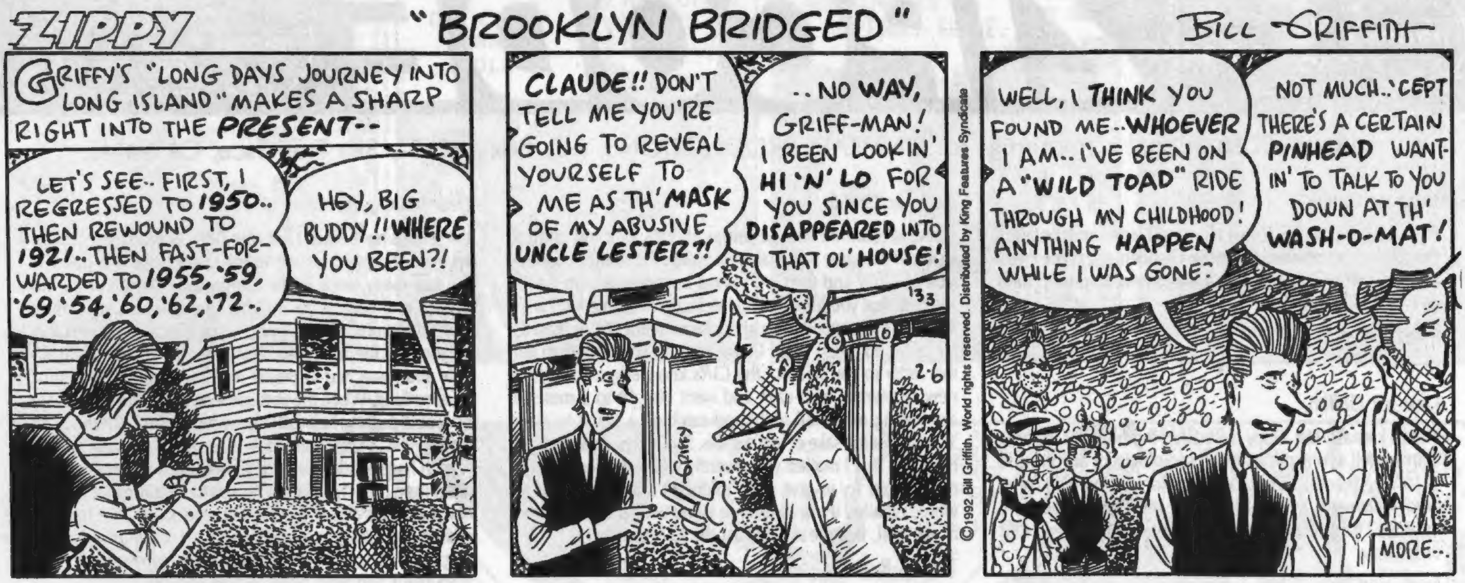
AT HIS MILITARY FUNERAL, THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS HANDED ME A SPENT CASING FROM THE FIVE-GUN SALUTE & MY MOTHER THE FLAG FROM HIS CASKET---
..HE WAS 57 YEARS OLD...
HE HATED THE ARMY....


ZIPPY
"BROOKLYN BRIDGED"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY'S "LONG DAYS JOURNEY INTO LONG ISLAND" MAKES A SHARP RIGHT INTO THE PRESENT--
LET'S SEE.. FIRST, I REGRESSED TO 1950.. THEN REWOUND TO 1921.. THEN FAST-FORWARDED TO 1955, '59, '69, '54, '60, '62, '72..
HEY, BIG BUDDY!! WHERE YOU BEEN?!
CLAUDE!! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO REVEAL YOURSELF TO ME AS TH' MASK OF MY ABUSIVE UNCLE LESTER?!
..NO WAY, GRIFF-MAN! I BEEN LOOKIN' HI 'N' LO FOR YOU SINCE YOU DISAPPEARED INTO THAT OL' HOUSE!
2-6
GRIFFY
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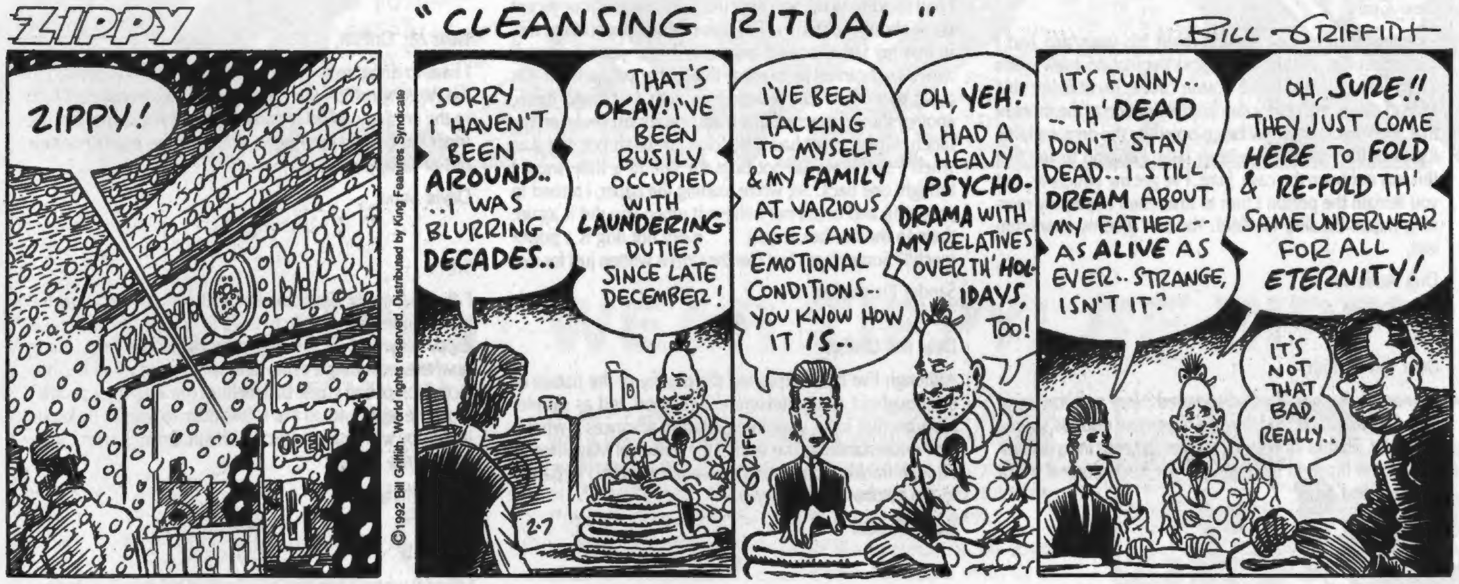
WELL, I THINK YOU FOUND ME.. WHOEVER I AM.. I'VE BEEN ON A "WILD TOAD" RIDE THROUGH MY CHILDHOOD! ANYTHING HAPPEN WHILE I WAS GONE?
NOT MUCH..'CEPT THERE'S A CERTAIN PINHEAD WANTIN' TO TALK TO YOU DOWN AT TH' WASH-O-MAT!
MORE..


ZIPPY
"CLEANSING RITUAL"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY!
WASH-O-MAT
OPEN
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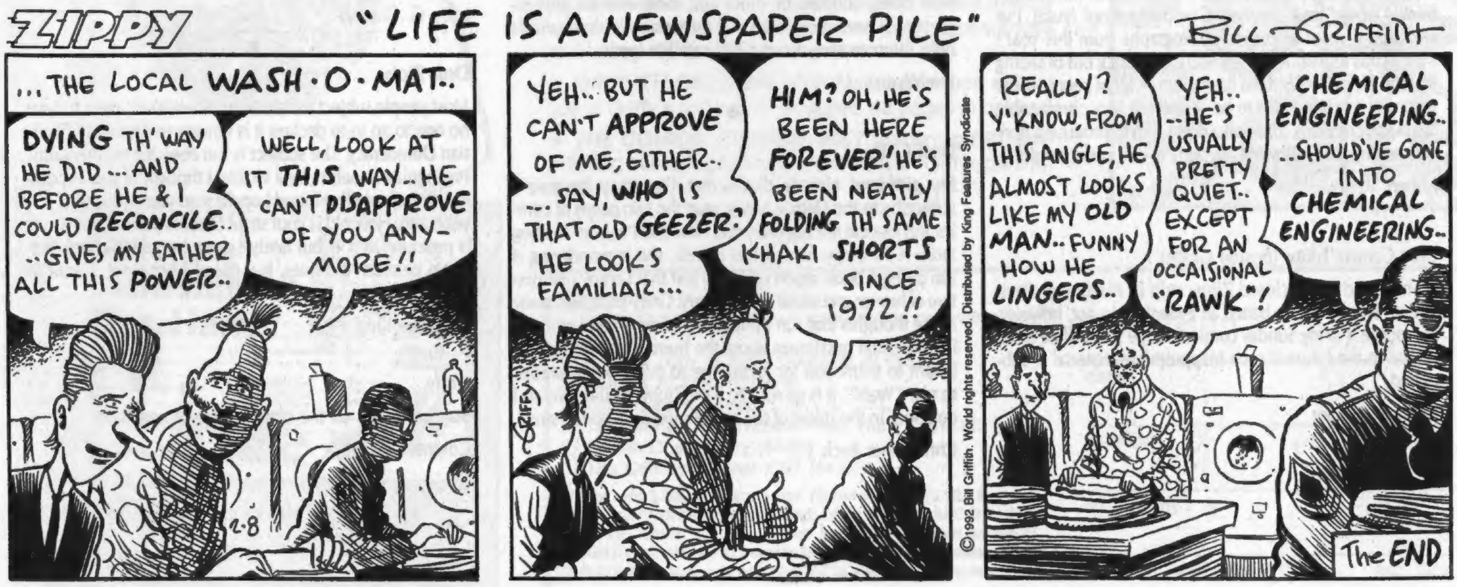
SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND.. ..I WAS BLURRING DECADES..
THAT'S OKAY! I'VE BEEN BUSILY OCCUPIED WITH LAUNDERING DUTIES SINCE LATE DECEMBER!
2-7
I'VE BEEN TALKING TO MYSELF & MY FAMILY AT VARIOUS AGES AND EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS.. YOU KNOW HOW IT IS..
OH, YEH! I HAD A HEAVY PSYCHO-DRAMA WITH MY RELATIVES OVER TH' HOLIDAYS, TOO!
GRIFFY
IT'S FUNNY.. ..TH' DEAD DON'T STAY DEAD.. I STILL DREAM ABOUT MY FATHER -- AS ALIVE AS EVER.. STRANGE, ISN'T IT?
OH, SURE!! THEY JUST COME HERE TO FOLD & RE-FOLD TH' SAME UNDERWEAR FOR ALL ETERNITY!
IT'S NOT THAT BAD, REALLY..


ZIPPY
"LIFE IS A NEWSPAPER PILE"
BILL GRIFFITH
...THE LOCAL WASH-O-MAT..
DYING TH' WAY HE DID ... AND BEFORE HE & I COULD RECONCILE.. ..GIVES MY FATHER ALL THIS POWER..
WELL, LOOK AT IT THIS WAY.. HE CAN'T DISAPPROVE OF YOU ANYMORE!!
2-8
YEH.. BUT HE CAN'T APPROVE OF ME, EITHER.. ...SAY, WHO IS THAT OLD GEEZER? HE LOOKS FAMILIAR...
HIM? OH, HE'S BEEN HERE FOREVER! HE'S BEEN NEATLY FOLDING TH' SAME KHAKI SHORTS SINCE 1972!!
GRIFFY
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REALLY? Y'KNOW, FROM THIS ANGLE, HE ALMOST LOOKS LIKE MY OLD MAN.. FUNNY HOW HE LINGERS..
YEH.. ..HE'S USUALLY PRETTY QUIET.. EXCEPT FOR AN OCCAISIONAL "RAWK"!
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING.. ..SHOULD'VE GONE INTO CHEMICAL ENGINEERING..
The END

ZIPCODE

Address all emotional outpourings to: PINHEAD PRODUCTIONS, P.O. Box 460154, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Are we all Zippy or is Zippy all of us? I was contemplating the connection between Cognitive Dissidence and Lee Press-On Nails when it hit me like a brand-new, improved flash of Pine-fresh bricks!

Mark A. Renfro

●

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Not to kiss ass, but Zippy has nailed the plight of modern man as well as any philosopher, sociologist or anyone else — I always fear that Z's place in the *Rocky Mountain News* here in Denver is tenuous, but we've managed to keep him in so far. I have to ask — did you, like, just used to do *tons* of LSD?

Frank Hart

●

Dear Griffy,

I started reading *Yow* comics about ten years ago and I remember the mixture of joy and trepidation I felt when Zippy first appeared in the *Boston Globe*. Joy at being able to read a new strip every day, but trepidation at the thought that you might somehow be co-opted by the demoralizing forces of the mainstream. Years later, I'm glad to see that this has not been the case. Sure, I've got my criticisms, but you remain the person I turn to first when I open my morning paper. Eat shit, *Garfield*. Yours in gloomy anachronism,

Dirk Anderson

●

Dear Bill Griffith,

My name *is* Burnell Yow! I discovered *Zippy* and *Yow* comics a few years ago, and they have been an endless source of delight. Thanks for keeping the deviled eggs from becoming a toilet brush in the hands of some ideological misfit on borrowed time.

Burnell Yow!

●

Dear Mr. Griffith,

Zippy is one of my role models. If it weren't for him, I don't think I would have survived Graduate school (yuk!). I've enclosed a sheet of copied photographs from this year's Mardi Gras festival. I thought you'd get a kick out of seeing pretend Zippy and Zerbina having fun. A lot of people knew who we were supposed to be — and felt very comfortable talking to pinheads. The polka dots seem to produce a non-threatening aura, allowing anybody to talk about anything.

Jospeh Mysliwiec

●

Dear Comics Editor (*Boston Globe*),

If I had read the enclosed *Zippy* strip in *Playboy* or *Penthouse* I wouldn't have batted an eyelash. I do *not*, however, appreciate it in my Sunday comics! I hope you will be more careful in the future if such inappropriate material is submitted.

Sarah N. Sawyer

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I have discovered strange things about CIA mind control in much the same way that I discovered the strange connection of Zippy and the CIA. I know as surely as I am standing here that you have had an interaction of some kind with some of their agents. You and I know the truth, at least as far as Mr. Pinhead goes. I have gone to great pains to get this letter to you without the CIA's knowledge. I bought a new typewriter with cash and went straight to a motel. I am staying awake all night and catching a plane to New York just for the sake of mailing this. The real purpose behind the tapes that I mailed you recently was to throw them off track if they try to give me a midnight interrogation as to where I mailed things. Hate me if you will, and distrust me if you will, but please distrust the CIA too.

Thomas R. Keske

●

Dear Griffy,

I had to write to tell you how involved I was in your recent strips about your father. The same thing happened to me, in that my father passed away about four years ago, and, as always, I can relate to many things that you write. It was a big part of my day, keeping up with that story. Today, another thing happened that made me almost choke on my lunch. I have never had a hot dog for lunch but that day, when I saw Kowalski hot dogs for sale in a little shop, I brought one back. So, while reading the paper, I turned to your strip and could not believe it when you did it again: there in the last box it said, ". . .every hot dog is a power lunch!!" Sometimes I feel like the strip is written just for me!

Sandra Dziedziula

●

Dear Mr. Griffith

Although I've been exploring the duality of the nature of the doughnut as quintessential junk food and as simple, monumental form, your interpretation advances a whole, new understanding. The stuff of the universe! Magnificent. Though frankly, concerning the center debate, I'm partial to the raspberry jelly theory.

Emily Eveleth

●

Dear Bill,

Have you done any research into the *hair flap* or *hair tunnel* look being adopted by more and more women anchorpersons? I have speculated that the parabolic shape might help them receive direct CNN satellite feeds.

Jim Wynn

●

Dear Griffy,

My girlfriend already thinks that I'm crazy because I subscribe to the *Detroit News*, read the two pages of comics and toss the rest out every day. Now that I've been reading *From A To Zippy* for the last month, she is wondering if I'm doing a book report on it. It's just that I enjoy the mixture of humor and social commentary. Griffy expresses many of the thoughts that run through my mind when I am feeling my usual pessimism about the human race in the U.S. I want to thank you for giving me so many opportunities to say, "Yeah!". It is so nice to have *Zippy*, well-drawn and detailed, in the midst of the sea of mediocre comic strips.

Christopher Beck

Dear Bill G.,

I'm serious here. Since I first met Zippy (5 years ago), I realized how important he was to my sanity. I get two doses of the guy every week in the *Oregonian*. I have cut out his sayings and copied his insights, and used his wisdom to make decisions. So on I went, happy that at least one other person saw the world the way I saw it. 'Til that night my wife and I watched a special on PBS TV, titled "Barnum" or something. When the part came on about the freak shows he would put on, I almost felt my heart break. There, plain as day, was a freak named — you guess it — Zippy. The wretch had microcephaly or something. I felt a certain joy drain from me. Zippy is too honest to be hiding something like that in his closet. Please write me and fill me in if I've missed something in a previous strip. I really am seriously perplexed about this. Thank you for the many years of deep enjoyment and long hours of amusement.

Haig Valenzuela

●

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I have to disagree with the gentleman who complained to the *Washington Post* that *Zippy* is deliberately obscure. Quite to the contrary, I find it perfectly understandable. On the other hand, I've never been able to make heads nor tails out of *Gasoline Alley*.

David Snow

●

Sir,

I always thought *Zippy the Pinhead* was bizarre to say the least. None of his subjects seem to be real or concrete. Is Zippy a symbol of the way a lot of people exist, going nowhere, not doing a damn rational thing, or what? Is Zippy a creation of bad vibes, bad feelings towards other people? To me he represents all that is forbidden to people. By knowing Zippy will I have a Psycho-Kinetic Brain Seizure? If so, don't write back.

Bill Gulledge

●

Dear Bill,

I liked it when *Zippy* first appeared in the *Kansas City Star*. I couldn't follow it without reaching for the dictionary but it was great.

Larry G. Gladish

●

Dear Zippy,

Most people subject to "arbitrary incarnation" seem to have no one to go to to declare it is treason to American Christian Democracy. The subject is too deep for my mentality. I recognize myself to be a victim. I thought of you as pure-hearted when I first found I could read you — less than 2½ years ago. How old is your strip? Discernment about issues is profound in it — but lately I sense tongue-in-cheek put-down between the lines. Is it there? I hope not. I want to trust you.

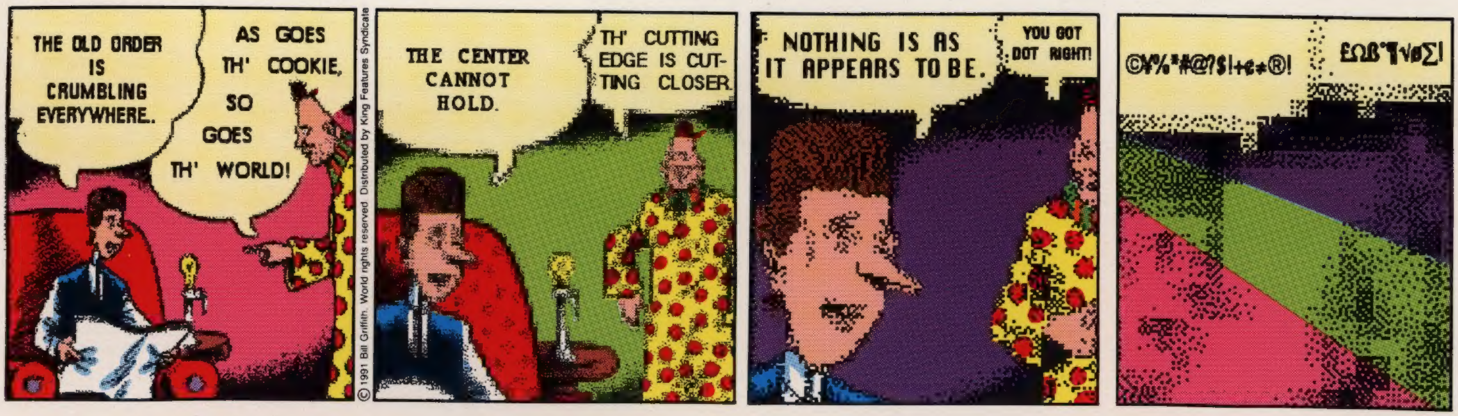
Celestine King

●

Griffy,

Stay out there, on the cutting edge of negativity.

Colonel G.G. Slick


THE OLD ORDER IS CRUMBLING EVERYWHERE.
AS GOES TH' COOKIE, SO GOES TH' WORLD!
THE CENTER CANNOT HOLD.
TH' CUTTING EDGE IS CUTTING CLOSER.
NOTHING IS AS IT APPEARS TO BE.
YOU GOT DOT RIGHT!
©¥%*#@?$!+¢∗®!
£Ωß°¶√ø∑!
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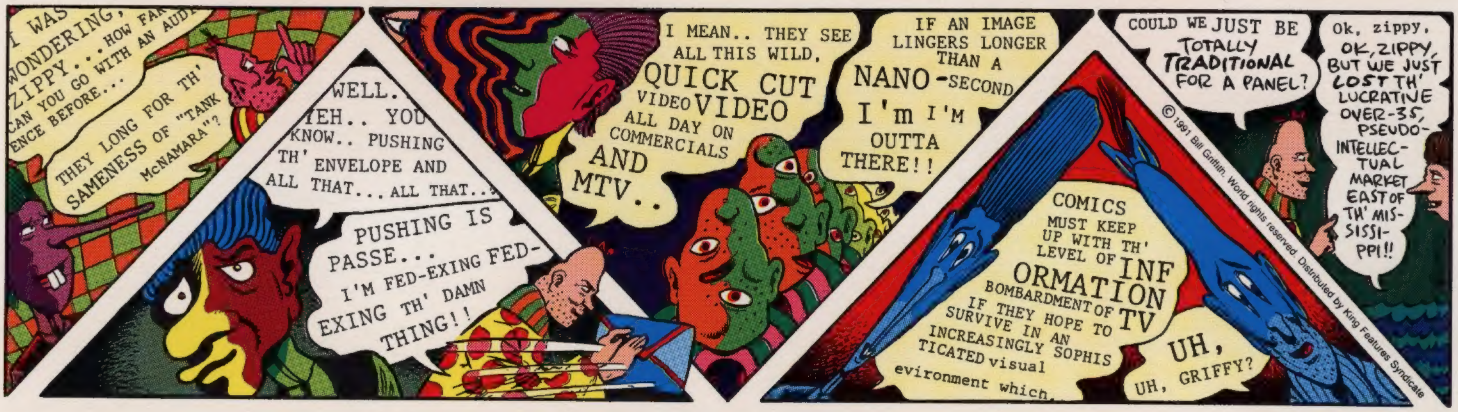
I WAS WONDERING, ZIPPY... HOW FAR CAN YOU GO WITH AN AUDIENCE BEFORE...
THEY LONG FOR TH' SAMENESS OF "TANK McNAMARA"?
WELL.. YEH.. YOU KNOW.. PUSHING TH' ENVELOPE AND ALL THAT... ALL THAT...
PUSHING IS PASSE... I'M FED-EXING FED-EXING TH' DAMN THING!!
I MEAN.. THEY SEE ALL THIS WILD, QUICK CUT VIDEO VIDEO ALL DAY ON COMMERCIALS AND MTV..
IF AN IMAGE LINGERS LONGER THAN A NANO-SECOND I'm I'M OUTTA THERE!!
COMICS MUST KEEP UP WITH TH' LEVEL OF INFORMATION BOMBARDMENT OF TV IF THEY HOPE TO SURVIVE IN AN INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED visual evironment which
UH, UH, GRIFFY?
COULD WE JUST BE TOTALLY TRADITIONAL FOR A PANEL?
Ok, zippy, OK, ZIPPY, BUT WE JUST LOST TH' LUCRATIVE OVER-35, PSEUDO-INTELLECTUAL MARKET EAST OF TH' MISSISSIPPI!!
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Zippy
ALIENATION IS PEACE!

- ***ZIPPY QUARTERLY*:** A 4-issue subscription will give you a full year's worth of wit & wisdom from the Zipster.
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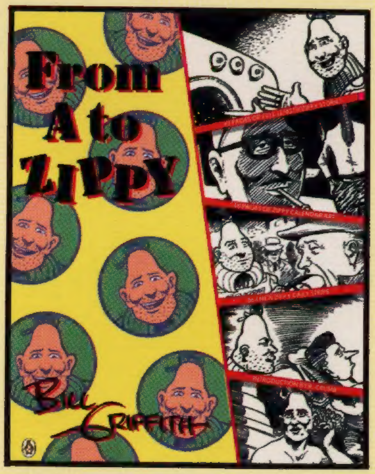
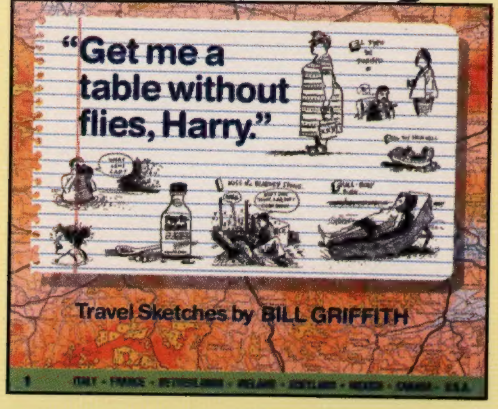

From A to ZIPPY
BILL GRIFFITH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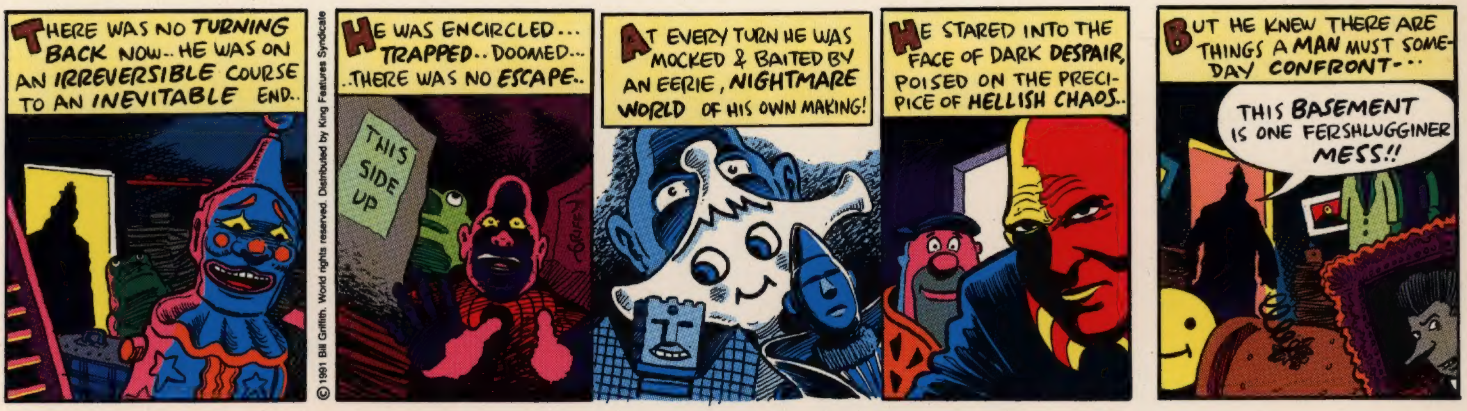
THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK NOW.. HE WAS ON AN IRREVERSIBLE COURSE TO AN INEVITABLE END..
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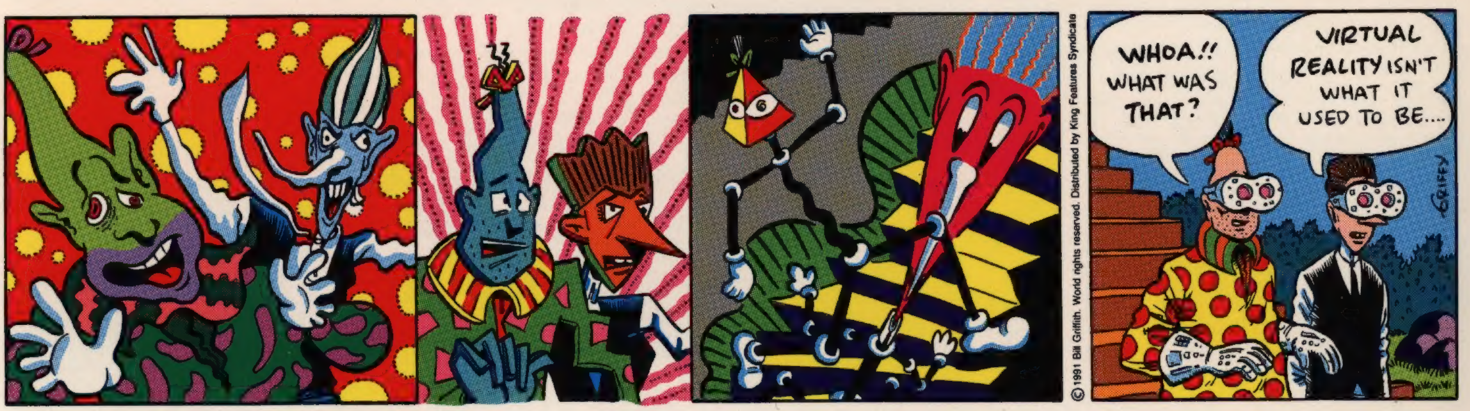
HE WAS ENCIRCLED... TRAPPED.. DOOMED... ..THERE WAS NO ESCAPE..
THIS SIDE UP
GRIFFY
AT EVERY TURN HE WAS MOCKED & BAITED BY AN EERIE, NIGHTMARE WORLD OF HIS OWN MAKING!
HE STARED INTO THE FACE OF DARK DESPAIR, POISED ON THE PRECIPICE OF HELLISH CHAOS..
BUT HE KNEW THERE ARE THINGS A MAN MUST SOMEDAY CONFRONT--
THIS BASEMENT IS ONE FERSHLUGGINER MESS!!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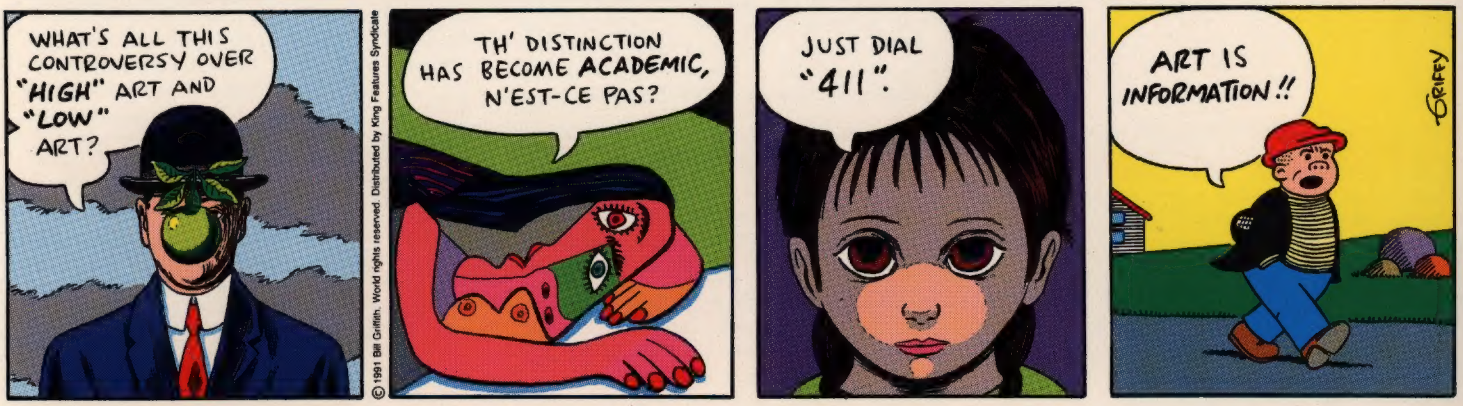
WHOA!! WHAT WAS THAT?
VIRTUAL REALITY ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE....
GRIFFY


WHAT'S ALL THIS CONTROVERSY OVER "HIGH" ART AND "LOW" ART?
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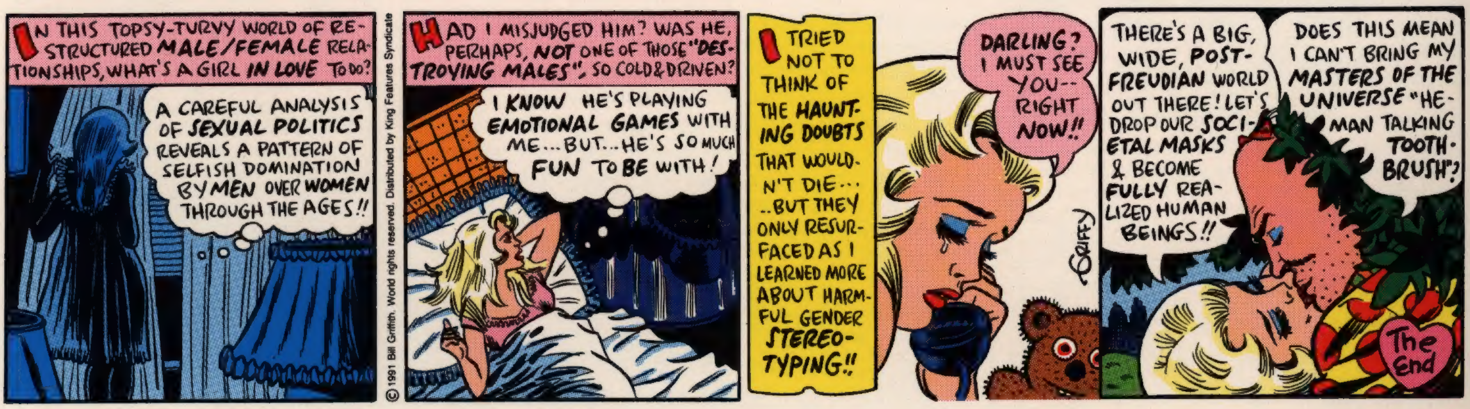
TH' DISTINCTION HAS BECOME ACADEMIC, N'EST-CE PAS?
JUST DIAL "411".
ART IS INFORMATION!!
GRIFFY


IN THIS TOPSY-TURVY WORLD OF RESTRUCTURED MALE/FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS, WHAT'S A GIRL IN LOVE TO DO?
A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF SEXUAL POLITICS REVEALS A PATTERN OF SELFISH DOMINATION BY MEN OVER WOMEN THROUGH THE AGES!!
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HAD I MISJUDGED HIM? WAS HE, PERHAPS, NOT ONE OF THOSE "DESTROYING MALES", SO COLD & DRIVEN?
I KNOW HE'S PLAYING EMOTIONAL GAMES WITH ME... BUT... HE'S SO MUCH FUN TO BE WITH!
I TRIED NOT TO THINK OF THE HAUNTING DOUBTS THAT WOULDN'T DIE... ..BUT THEY ONLY RESURFACED AS I LEARNED MORE ABOUT HARMFUL GENDER STEREOTYPING!!
DARLING? I MUST SEE YOU-- RIGHT NOW!!
GRIFFY
THERE'S A BIG, WIDE, POST-FREUDIAN WORLD OUT THERE! LET'S DROP OUR SOCIETAL MASKS & BECOME FULLY REALIZED HUMAN BEINGS!!
DOES THIS MEAN I CAN'T BRING MY MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE "HE-MAN TALKING TOOTHBRUSH"?
The End

> **"In two decades, Bill Griffith's Zippy the Pinhead has been transformed from a one-shot gag into the idiot savant of our whirling consumer culture. Griffy's tirades against advertising, truckers' caps, and Bruce Springsteen are hilarious, but he'd be just another elitist snotball without Zippy's cut-and-paste giddiness. Together they're irresistible: the good cop/bad cop of surrealist social criticism... Zippy's not the biggest fool this country has — we elect those — but he is our best."**
>
> **— Ty Burr, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY**